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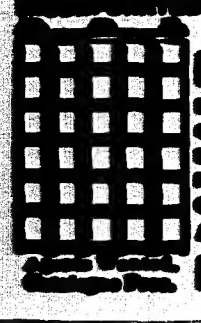

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IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER MADE BY HON. ROGER A. PRYOR, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of New York, on the 9th day of March, 1892, notice is hereby given to all creditors and persons having claims against John Crotty, lately doing business in the City and County of New York, that they are required to present their claims, with the vouchers therefor duly verified, to the subscriber, the assignee of said John Crotty, for the benefit of creditors, at his office, at No. 237 Broadway, in the City of New York, on or before the 23d day of May, 1892.

Dated New York, March 8th, 1892.

L. A. WRAY, Assignee.

ROBERTSON & HARRON, Attorneys for Assignee.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER MADE BY HON. ROGER A. PRYOR, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, in and for the City and County of New York, on the 24th day of February, 1892, notice is hereby given to all creditors and persons having claims against Charles H. Kohlhaas, lately doing business in the City and County of New York, that they are required to present their claims, with the vouchers therefor, duly verified, to the subscriber, the duly appointed substituted assignee of said Charles H. Kohlhaas, for the benefit of creditors, at his place of transacting business, Nos. 49 and 51 Chambers street, in the City of New York, on or before the 23d day of May, 1892.

Dated New York, February 24th, 1892.

F. W. BRODSKY, Substituted Assignee.

JOHN E. BRODSKY, Attorney for Assignee.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER MADE BY THE HON. ROGER A. PRYOR, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the City and County of New York, on the 5th day of February, 1892, notice is hereby given to all the creditors and persons having claims against Joseph Zweigel, lately doing business in the City and County of New York, that they are required to present their claims, with the vouchers therefor, duly verified, to the subscriber, the duly appointed assignee of the said Joseph Zweigel, for the benefit of creditors, at his place of transacting business, No. 42 Maiden lane, in the City of New York, on or before the 23d day of April, 1892.

Dated New York, February 5th, 1892.

FREDERICK KAFFEMAN, Assignee.

JOSEPH KOHLER, Attorney for Assignee, 220 Broadway, New York City.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS IN AND FOR THE City and County of New York—John P. Hunt, plaintiff, against Hugh Finnan, Lawrence Finnan, Finnan, wife of Lawrence Finnan (her first name being unknown to plaintiff), James Finnan, Finnan, wife of James Finnan, (her first name being unknown to plaintiff), Rose Godfrey (formerly Rose Finnan), William J. Godfrey, her husband, Mary Ann Finnan, Julia Finnan, Mary A. McGeogh (or McGough), wife of Edward J. McGeogh or McGough), Agnes McCusker (or McCloskey), wife of James McCusker (or McCloskey), Bradley, widow of John J. Bradley, deceased, if he died leaving a widow, and the devisees (if any) of said John J. Bradley, deceased, and all other persons being or claiming to be the heirs at law of the said John J. Bradley, deceased, and the wives of such persons (if any), and the grantees, mortgagees and judgment creditors, and the heirs and devisees of said grantees, mortgagees and judgment creditors of such persons, or any of them, and all persons claiming under or through them, said persons being unknown to plaintiff, defendants.

To the above named defendants and each of them:

You are hereby summoned to answer the amended and supplemental complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer on the plaintiff's attorney within twenty days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default, for the relief demanded in the amended and supplemental complaint.

Dated February 6th, 1892.

THOMAS C. ENNEVER, Plaintiff's Attorney.

Post Office address and office, No. 132 Nassau street New York City.

To Hugh Finnan, Lawrence Finnan, Finnan, wife of Lawrence Finnan (her first name being unknown to plaintiff), James Finnan, Finnan, wife of James Finnan (her first name being unknown to plaintiff), Rose Godfrey (formerly Rose Finnan), William J. Godfrey, her husband, Mary Ann Finnan, Julia Finnan, Bradley, widow of John J. Bradley, deceased, if he died leaving a widow, and the devisees (if any) of said John J. Bradley, deceased, and all other persons being or claiming to be the heirs at law of the said John J. Bradley, deceased, and the wives of such persons (if any) and the grantees, mortgagees and judgment creditors, and the heirs and devisees of said grantees, mortgagees and judgment creditors of such persons, or any of them, and all persons claiming under or through them, said persons being unknown to plaintiff:

The foregoing supplemental summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an order of Hon. Roger A. Pryor, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of New York, dated and filed the 15th day of February, 1892, with the supplemental and amended complaint in the office of the Clerk of the said Court of Common Pleas in and for the City and County of New York, at the County Court House, New York City.

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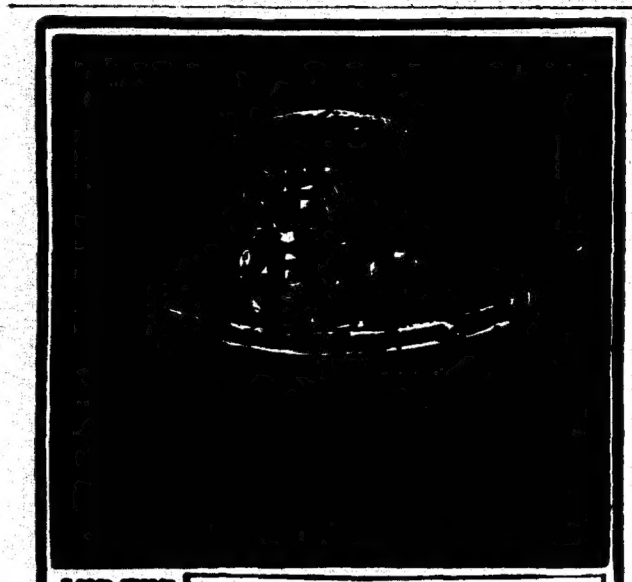

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THE STANDARD

VOL. XI. NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 1892. No. 10.

MORE IMPORTANT FOR DEMOCRATS THAN GETTING TOGETHER.—The newspapers and the men that are anxious to place the Democratic party in power, regardless of what it represents or will do, but solely because it is their party, are calling upon Democrats to get together, as if the getting together of Democrats could elect Democratic candidates. The Democrats were together during the war, and they were mercilessly and justly defeated at every election. They stayed together after the war, and until politics assumed a shape that drove Republicans out of that party they were punished as badly as ever. And the party will be punished while it appeals to party traditions instead of appealing to the aspirations of democracy. Except for Cleveland's administration, there is nothing to be proud of in the history of the Democratic party since 1850; nor is there anything in that history to attract either new voters or old Republicans. It is not by getting together that the Democratic party can rise to power, but by inviting Republicans and independents of democratic proclivities to join them.

Striking proof of this was given in the local elections throughout the State of New York last week. Senator Hill represents strict partisanship. He depends for success wholly upon thick and thin Democratic partisans. He had just secured control of the party. It was a time if ever for Democrats to get together. Probably they did get together; but they failed to induce others to gather with them, and the party was disastrously defeated. In Hill's own city, where the Democratic candidate for Mayor was unobjectionable, except as the representative of Hill's kind of democracy, and where party loyalty was made the shibboleth, the opposition candidate was elected by a large majority. That city had long been Democratic, and last year it gave Flower a decisive majority for Governor.

We are going through a transition period in politics. If the Democratic party recognizes the fact, it may secure advantages in the change. If it does not recognize it, defeat is inevitable. The split in the party in New York is over that very question. It is between Democrats who read the signs of the times, and those who do not. Should the contesting delegation from this State be thrown out, the contesting delegates and their immediate Democratic constituency may submit, as they say they will. But back of them and of their partisan constituency is a vast body of voters who will not submit. And it is this body, not the thick and thin Democrats, who will determine the electoral vote of New York next fall.

COUNTY OPTION IN TAXATION.—The tax committee of the New York Assembly has reported the Connelly bill for county home rule in taxation to the House for consideration, but without recommendation either way. This is the bill which authorizes each county to determine for itself whether land values, improvement values, personal property, or any two, or all three, shall be taxed. It requires an appraisement of all kinds of property to be made so that each county shall be assessed its fair share of taxation by the State, but it allows the county to select the subject of taxation.

The Connelly bill is the only practical solution of the perennial puzzle with which personal property taxationists afflict the public. If the counties that want personal property taxation choose, they may have it under this bill to their hearts' content without hurting any one but themselves; and if the counties that want real estate taxation choose, they may have it under this bill without being annually subjected in the Legislature to the ignorant onslaughts of personal property taxationists from other counties.

The Real Estate Record and Guide, for a paper which is usually so careful, makes a curious criticism. It says that inasmuch as about one-quarter of present taxation in New York city is derived from personal property, real estate owners there would find their taxes raised from 1.91 to about 2.33. Though this takes no account of the saving in the expense of trying to collect personal taxes, that may be relatively so small as not to figure in the problem. But the paper goes on to say that real estate owners who do not themselves occupy their houses would shift the tax to tenants. As to so much of the tax as fell upon houses this would be true; but as to that which fell upon the lots it would not be true, as our contemporary evidently sees, for it adds that "the burden of carrying unimproved real estate would be correspondingly heavier." This reference to unimproved real estate offers the best food for thought to be found in the whole criticism. Would it not be a good thing if the burden of carrying unimproved real estate were made heavier? The heavier the burden the less likely it is to be carried, and unimproved real estate in greater supply would find its way to the real estate market. That would be good for real estate dealers, who would make their commissions; it would be good for builders, who would be able to secure cheaper places on which to erect houses, and since house rent would tend to decline and tenants to call for better accommodations, the builders would find their trade brisker; it would be good for tenants, for they could live in better quarters than now, and owing to the brisker demand for workers of all kinds they would have steadier work at better wages, which would make it better for storekeepers, and better for farmers, who constitute one of the sources of supply for storekeepers. Indeed, it would tend to benefit every one, except the owners of unimproved real estate, who poise like hawks over a chicken yard, watching an opportunity to make something out of other people's enterprise. What do these owners of unimproved real estate do, anyhow—as owners of unimproved real estate? It is said that they hold it until it is wanted. Very well, it will not run away if they stop holding it.

DIAGNOSIS BEFORE REMEDIES. — The indifference with which even men who are supposed to be wise contemplate outbreaks among the poor, with sensational accounts of which the newspapers are often full, affords a curious study. It is like the behavior of those neighbors of Noah who thought the deluge "wouldn't be much of a shower after all." Here and there, however, a note of warning is heard, and we have seen nothing so eloquent as this from the Detroit Journal:

> There are said to be 30,000 unemployed men in Chicago. In Indianapolis there are rioting and bloodshed because of the strike of the street car employees. Nearly half a million of English miners are about to strike to prevent a reduction of wages. The miners of Pennsylvania are paid barely enough to live upon, and they must rent company houses and trade at company stores which rob them as they please. The Pennsylvania miners are practically the slaves of one great corporation. In Spain they are hunting down and garroting those who agitate for a change of the social order. Anarchists are using dynamite in Paris. The unemployed and starving of Austria are turning to suicide for relief. The throne of the kaiser is being assailed by furious mobs of hungry men who are impudently told to emigrate if they are not contented with things as they are in Germany. Famine rules among 30,000,000 of the peasants in Russia. In all parts of the civilized world poverty is taking on more hideous forms, or else the newspapers are more active in presenting the details of human misery. Just above the unemployed and starving are thousands in the social scale for whom one turn of the relentless wheel would mean sharp hunger. By the greatest exertion in the midst of anxiety and fear of want they manage to hang upon the edge of respectability. In some respects theirs is the deepest suffering. The whole world seems in travail, and what is the remedy, if remedy there be?

To this group of significant facts might now be added the bread riots of Dantzig, and then the story would not be half told. Poverty is indeed the great puzzle of the time. What is the remedy? That is not the primary question. When a doctor is called in cases of sickness, the first question he puts to himself is not "What is the remedy?" but "What is the disease?" And that is the question we must answer for society before the efficacy of any remedy can be considered.

What is the cause of this disease, of which the symptoms are so marked, so general, so constant, so pitiful, and at times so menacing? It cannot be lack of wealth. Wealth is plentiful. But more important than that, far more important, the very men who suffer from want are able to produce enough and more than enough wealth to meet their wants. And those who fear the "turn of the relentless wheel," do they fear lest they may not be able to keep on producing wealth? No, that is not the fear that hovers above them and darkens their lives with its shadow. Neither is it inability to produce wealth that prevents the others from lifting themselves out of poverty. If we search for the germ of social disease in the incapacity of men to produce what they need, we shall search in vain. The labor power, mental and physical, with which wealth is made, and without which there would be no wealth, we have in abundance. In an army of hungry men there resides all the labor power that is necessary to supply all their wants.

If lack of labor power is not the cause of poverty, is it lack of willingness to labor? As to those who fear the "turn of the relentless wheel," that cannot be; they are now working, and their great anxiety is not that they may be compelled to keep on working, but that somehow they may be prevented from working. And as to those who are without work, is it not work that they ask for? What did the bread rioters of Germany demand? Not bread, but work. Not charity, but a chance to trade the only thing they have, labor power, for the products of other labor power. There was no bread riot in Berlin when the boom was on and building was brisk. He must be a very poor social doctor who, in the face of common

and general facts which point away from this explanation, insists that poverty and fear of poverty are due to the indolence of the poor.

Is it not obvious that the real trouble is lack of opportunity to work? But why should there be any lack of opportunity to work when all who want are willing to work in supplying want? How can there be lack of work while want exists. With demand for the products of work, and ability and willingness to do work, why should any suffer?

Look a little farther. While all who suffer are able and willing to work, the ability of each is limited to the production of only one kind of thing, or, at best, of a few kinds. Some can build houses, some can contribute in various ways to the production of food, some in various ways to the production of clothing, some to the production of luxuries. Each wants a little of all these things, but not as much as he can make. Then why does not each make what he can make to best advantage, and trade with those who make other things, until the wants of all are satisfied? Nature has given us oceans and rivers to facilitate such trade, and man's inventiveness has added devices almost without number; while, back of this, nature has supplied raw material in abundance. With exhaustless raw material for the production of wealth, with millions of laborers of all grades, from the unskilled "hand" to the inventor, and with channels of trade through which products flow smoothly to the points where they are wanted and to the people who want them, why should any be poor, why should any be in fear of poverty?

Is not the inference irresistible that trade must be interfered with, so as to keep the workingman as consumer away from the workingman as producer? Manifold facts verify the inference. Protective tariffs—any tariffs, including ordinary taxation—tend to make trading less extensive and more difficult; and this in turn tends to make the supply of labor greater than the demand for labor products. But underneath is the fact that raw materials for the production of all forms of wealth are treated as private property, so that producers are compelled to divide their products with the owners of the raw material. Land, being limited, increases in value, so as to take a growing proportion from the producer for the benefit of the landowner. Thus land, becoming a safe, and taking a period of years together an exceptionally certain and profitable investment, is appropriated on speculation ahead of its demand for use. Hence our unworked coal fields, our unworked farm lands, our unimproved city lots. No one can use them without permission of an owner, who demands a price that makes profitable production nearly or quite impossible without skill of a very high and unusual order. For that reason the less skillful, deprived of opportunities to work for themselves, become competitors for opportunities to work for others. The competition grows keen as the process goes on, and wages fall. With falling wages, consumption declines; and as consumption declines opportunities for other laborers to supply consumption are narrowed. The outcome is an unemployed class. That point reached, a social earthquake is only a matter of keeping on.

If this is not the explanation of poverty, will the Detroit Journal give one—an explanation of the disease, and not as is so often done, a mere speculation about some of its symptoms? And if our explanation is the true one, will the Journal tell us why this is not a just and effectual remedy: Abolish all taxation on wealth, so that it can be produced, owned, enjoyed, and exchanged without arbitrary interference; and raise all public revenues from the value of land, so that users of superior land will have no arbitrary advantage over users of land not so good, and that unused land will be abandoned.

THE ENGLISH COAL MINERS' STRIKE.—The contemplated strike of English coal miners exhibits some peculiar phases of trades unionism. The mine owners having announced a reduction of wages, the miners protested; but the owners, explaining that the fall in the price of coal compelled it, insisted upon the reduction. The miners then proposed that mining stop by mutual agreement until the price of coal should rise to the former figure. The owners declined. They argued that other mines would rush their product in and take the market. The miners replied that they would call out the miners from all mines that sold coal for less than the former price. Still the owners refused to yield, and the miners gave notice of a strike. As such a strike would withdraw thousands of miners from coal production, and tend to raise the price of coal, to the obstruction of many other industries, the interests of over a million workingmen were involved; and the mere expectation of the strike has raised the price of coal in England to such a point that poor consumers are actually suffering, and the fear of greater suffering becomes more intense as suspension of work in factories using large quantities of coal becomes imminent. Yet, despite the higher price of coal, the mine owners show no disposition to maintain wages. The truth is that it is not prices of coal that determine the wages of miners, but the supply of unemployed labor in general. The real cause of this industrial disturbance is the absolute ownership of coal deposits, which English law has unjustly vested in a few English people. By reason of their ownership they can afford to stop production for an indefinate time—longer than miners can afford to do without work. But a new era is opening. The municipal election in London gives promise of an early adoption of the single tax. When this is applied to mining values, mine owners will find themselves in a position where they must either work their mines to the best advantage or let some one else do it. The demand of employers for workmen will then advance to meet the demand of workmen for work, and arbitrary reductions of wages will no longer be possible.

BALLOT REFORM IN NEW YORK.—An exploded constitutional objection to the blanket ballot was again raised last week in the Judiciary Committee of the New York Senate. It had been seen that even with a blanket ballot, if the voter were allowed to write the name of any one on his ticket as the candidate of his choice, an opportunity for identifying ballots would be afforded, and the New York ballot reformers provided that no names, except in emergencies, should appear on the official ballots but those of duly nominated candidates, which should be in print. The constitutional objection made to this is that a voter has the right to vote for any one for any office, provided he has the constitutional qualifications. Nothing could be more absurd. The voter has no right to vote at all unless he registers a reasonable time before election. He has no right to vote for any one who has been disqualified from holding office as a punishment of crime, even though the Constitution does not provide that penalty for the crime. A voter has a right to vote, and to vote for whom he pleases, but only in obedience to such rules and regulations as the Legislature may impose.

The only limitation upon the legislative power of regulating elections is that its regulations shall be reasonable. Is it not reasonable that candidates shall be named a few days before election that their names may be printed on the official ballots and the public know who is up for election? What substantial right is annulled by such a regulation? Voting is not intended for the purpose of enabling voters to exhibit either their handwriting or their crankiness on ballots, but for the purpose of ascertaining the will of the majority.

AN ENGLISH REVOLUTION.—The County Council election in London last Saturday was a revolution. It turned upon the question of taxing land values, and the supporters of the single tax were returned to the Council in such overwhelming numbers as to insure an official demand upon Parliament for power to tax land values for the expense of public improvements in London. This power can not be much longer denied. The very election that insures the demand, prophesies the triumph of the Liberal party at the approaching Parliamentary elections; and the Liberal party is so pledged to the taxation of land values that it will be impossible for it to refuse the demand of the new County Council of London. That power, when vested in the London Council, will also be vested in every County Council in England. The London Council, already committed to the single tax, will institute the reform as soon as it receives the power; and the sentiment which has made it possible there, exists in other counties and will soon be felt in all. It may safely be predicted that the beginning of the end has set in in England. The adoption in the world's metropolis of so large a single tax measure, in full recognition of the truth of single tax principles, will mean its early adoption in a greater and increasing degree, not only in London, but wherever the influence of English thought extends.

HOW TO REGULATE CORPORATE FRANCHISES.—Governor Flower, of New York, has just sent to the Legislature a message so important and sensible as to deserve a place in the highest order of State papers. Its subject matter is the relation of public improvements to corporate franchises; the occasion is pending legislation looking to the construction of a public bridge across the East River and connecting elevated railroads, by a private corporation.

The Governor says, and in this he expresses the best public sentiment, that he has no sympathy with that "immoderate concern for public interests which sees a bogy in every corporate enterprise of a public character;" and he makes a perfectly fair criticism when, disapproving the wholesale denunciation of men and motives with which "a somewhat short sighted and hysterical press" greets every corporate attempt to obtain municipal privileges, he declares that such denunciation retards public improvements, and rivets more tightly the fetters of existing monopolistic control. He believes in encouraging public improvements. He believes that as far as possible they should be undertaken at private expense and managed by private enterprise. He opposes the interposition of unnecessary or arbitrary restrictions which will hamper improvements or deter investment. But he believes also that the bestowal of municipal franchises should be surrounded with reasonable safeguards for subserving the public interests, based upon

terms approximately commensurate with the value of the privileges granted.

Both by argument and from experience Governor Flower shows that the selling of franchises to the highest bidder not only fails to accomplish its purpose, but that it actually favors existing monopolies at the expense of the public; and he suggests a "careful scheme of municipal compensation based upon future earnings rather than upon present estimates." In support of his suggestion he soundly and forcibly argues that the present worth of franchises is a difficult matter to calculate; that a public franchise, which to-day may seem of little or no value, may in twenty-five years be of great value; and that a privilege which is valuable to-day may in a few years have lost its value. His conclusion is that improvements should be welcomed by withholding unreasonable or doubtful restrictions; and that monopoly should be guarded against by insisting that, if a franchise prove specially remunerative, the municipality be reasonably compensated from time to time out of its income.

Governor Flower does not propose a definite scheme. He leaves that to the Legislature. But the principle is sound, and it is obvious that a practicable scheme may be easily devised. The principle is the essential one from which las single tax men we proceed, that opportunities to improve should be free, but that when monopolistic advantages accrue, the value of those advantages—not the value of the enterprise but of the advantages—should be taken for public use.

THE NATURE OF MONEY.

EDWARD J. SHRIVER.

In political economy, as in the field of ethics, money might well be termed the root of all evil. No other department of the science has served more thoroughly to tangle up the brains of those who have studied it, from whichever point of view they have approached the study. Nor is this strange; for, while such processes as the production of wealth or the operation of rent are created by natural forces,

and governed by natural law, money is a mere artificial device, evolved though it has usually been by the involuntary concert of men as they have come together into societies. Reduced to its essential characteristic, money is simply a tool of trade, the representative of other things the exchange of which it makes *more convenient*. Its quality is wholly unimportant, so long as it is generally acceptable, just as its quantity has little, if any, such influence on trade as is generally ascribed to it. The other functions commonly ascribed to money—those of measuring values, of serving as a standard of value during more or less extended periods of time, and as a "store of value"—are purely incidental to the primary one of acting as a circulating medium; and the last named of these is not really a property of money at all, but only of the precious metals, of which it has, until the most modern times, been chiefly composed.

For within a comparatively recent period, the nature of money has almost wholly changed. In barbarisms which have progressed just beyond the state of barter, the articles used to represent goods when passing from one hand to another, have rarely had intrinsic value. A string of wampum or of shells came to be accepted by common consent as *representing* a *certain* value in the skins or other articles that constituted the germ of commerce thus far developed; and men therefore gave up their surplus of useful things for the valueless money, in simple confidence that other men who might have to dispose of what they in their turn might need, would do the same. So long as trade was confined to narrow geographical limits and amongst closely related tribes, this did well enough; but as it spread more widely abroad the need of more security was felt, and when men sold goods they required to be paid in something which cost some labor to get and was sure to be wanted for its own sake, so that when they might wish to buy there would be no difficulty about it; and thus such materials as gold and silver came into use.

With the still further widening of commercial circles, we have now fairly reached another stage. Returning in one sense to a system of barter, we have adopted a circulating medium even less intrinsically valuable than wampum, because purely intangible. Fully nine-tenths of all transactions within advanced nations, perhaps three-fourths of the domestic dealings of the more backward ones, practically the whole of international trade, is conducted entirely without the use of any representative except the writing down of values in books and on exchangeable slips of paper. The farmer delivers his grain to the commission dealer and gets from the latter a certificate that he has done so in the shape of a check on the local bank, which the dealer makes good by depositing a draft upon the city house to which the grain has been shipped. The farmer has meanwhile transferred his credit at the bank, perhaps for dry goods or groceries at the country store, the keeper of which transmits it again on paper to the city whence these goods came and where they have been produced by operatives who have eaten the flour ground from the grain, and where the exchange of the grain for the dry goods or groceries is effected by means of the issuance of more checks and the cancellation of these against each other on the books of the banks, and usually by a final settlement of balances in the clearing-house between the banks.

All this is simple enough and familiar enough; and yet it is but a microcosm of what nearly all commerce has got to be, in which money as a concrete substance that is taken by A from B and given to C as a material representative, has disappeared, and become merely a term for the more convenient expression of the comparative value of the goods interchanged. For all such trade, a dollar in reality means a certain accepted value of goods or services, and is no longer even superficially identical with a given number of grains of gold or silver, or a piece of paper printed in some particular way. There is no magic in any of these things; they are of service in their monetary capacity only so long and to such extent as they can be more conveniently used and will be more readily acceptable than other things, as representing values in general. Their relative abundance or scarcity cannot in itself increase or diminish the number of transactions in which they are used, any more than the number of valves in an engine will affect the power or the volume of the steam which passes through them; though just as the lack of these may retard the passage of the steam, or their excess may waste it by means of extra friction and leakage, so the volume of circulating medium may influence the ease of doing business, to the extent that the one is dependent upon the other as an exclusive agent for which no convenient substitute can be found in case of need.

In effect, modern commerce has provided itself with just such a substitute in its increasing use of checks, and drafts, and money orders, and ledger accounts. By charging off services of one kind on one side against services of another on the other side until merely insignificant balances are left to be finally settled, we get rid of so much of the necessity for outright payments. Almost all international trade has come to be conducted on this basis, the "rate of foreign exchange" quickly showing the traders of a country whether it is importing or exporting in excess, and affording an inducement to make shipments one way or the other to restore the balance, which overcomes even hostile tariffs. Narrowing somewhat as it descends from foreign trade through the various departments of wholesale business to the smallest retail transactions, these reciprocal credits of which the so-called "money of account" consists, have entered already into the daily routine of purchases for final consumption, and are destined to be more and more utilized as their greater convenience comes to be more fully appreciated.

Every man who keeps his little bank account for household expenses, and pays his butcher's bill with a check instead of with greenbacks or coin, everyone even who uses the more cumbersome postal order system, is expanding the currency, and doing it much more efficiently than an act of Congress ever can, because the expansion comes just when and where it is needed, and is done away with as soon as the need is past.

Nor is there even the most remote connection between the volume of currency and what is so often spoken of as "ease" or "tightness of money," except in so far as popular misconception leads to expanding or contracting the use of capital, because of the quantity of tangible currency that may happen to be in sight. Capital itself is for the most part ephemeral and is not stored up, except in very minor degree, from year to year. The most stable form of capital—that in which it decays and is used up most slowly—is seen in buildings; yet it will generally be found that the value of a house that any man occupies is usually about equal to but one year's ordinary income earned by him: considerably less for the great majority than the value of a year's product. The subject of loans, which is the "money" that periodically becomes "tight" or "easy," is in most cases nothing else than the sum of productive energy, the power of directing which—and accordingly of determining whether or not it shall be exerted or remain stagnant—is

more or less concentrated in few hands. With the causes of this concentration, "money" proper has literally nothing whatever to do; nor, except by its influence on the sentiment of those in control, has it with their action in any given case.

Whether it be in the shape of wampum or bills of exchange, of gold eagles or bank checks, of greenback dollars or commercial drafts, its essential character is one and the same—that simply of a convenient piece of machinery for the more convenient exchange of goods or services (which in the last analysis are the same thing, by the way): and according to whether it performs that duty well or ill, is it to be determined whether a given kind of money is primarily good, bad, or indifferent. Tested by this standard, it is not hard to see that the best *form* is that which is simplest, is surest to pass current anywhere, and whose volume is automatically self-regulative; and that any attempt to arbitrarily increase or diminish a currency does harm in direct proportion to how far a legislative guess may miss the real quantity needed by trade.

It is true, however, that the incidental functions of money do somewhat modify the standard by which to judge its relative usefulness. These are, first, the serving as the measure by which to compare the respective values of articles exchanged for one another (through the indirect barter in which modern commerce consists), and, second, as the standard by which the degree of service acknowledged in a debt is to be recorded. The latter, though the chief bone of contention in monetary controversies is, after all, the least essential. In the first place, the conduct of business enterprises upon credit, unknown in barbarisms, is fast disappearing again as civilization advances. The great public and corporate debts which have grown up are in reality of the same nature as the share capitals into which the ownership of great enterprises is usually divided, and it is simply a question of convenience—which commerce can be safely trusted to settle for itself—in which form they are expressed. Justice undoubtedly demands that the amount of service rendered in payment of a debt of whatever kind should as nearly as possible equal that which was originally borrowed, and it is certainly a convenience to have a comparatively unvarying standard by which to reckon the debt and its re-payment. Yet there can be no doubt whatever that if a people should find it more convenient to transact their exchanges with some medium that did not afford the requisite stability of value for the recording of indebtedness, they would spontaneously arrange the latter on a basis that would exclude entirely the use of money.

In like manner, it is solely a question of relative convenience whether the values of articles exchanged for one another shall be compared in terms of money or according to some arbitrary scale. Just as in the case of debts, if the "medium of exchange" (whether its adoption is due to an error of popular judgment, or to an intelligent selection because of greater adaptability to its particular work), is not stable enough also to measure values, so that a man may be always sure that every exchange in which he engages may be reckoned on the same scale, then the community will surely evolve its own "measure of value;" just as international trade has come to be almost entirely conducted with the pound sterling as a standard, the relative value of which to all commodities is uniform the world over, although the relation to it of national currencies is constantly changing.

Of course, any radical change in the value of the circulating medium, even if it is a change which permanently substitutes a tool that is better for the work to be done, not only creates confusion amongst all transactions that go on while the trade is being made, but also is necessarily unjust to one or the other party to any debt then existing. Whether such change can well arise under present conditions by reason of an increase or decrease in the number of coins in circulation, is getting to be an open question. For all large dealings and for many small ones, the use of concrete money (gold or silver coin and their representatives, government or bank notes) has been almost wholly abandoned in favor of the abstract money which is furnished equally by checks or other orders upon banks and by transfers of accounts on merchants' ledgers. The concrete money doing not more than one-tenth of all the work done, an addition or deduction to it of half its volume, means an addition or deduction of not more than 5 per cent. of the total volume of true money employed;—even if it is not wholly compensated for by a corresponding contraction or expansion in the use of abstract money; a man who ordinarily uses bank checks in settling a part of his personal expenses, for instance, being apt to employ them to a less degree if he should happen to receive more greenbacks than usual, and resort to the checkbook more readily when the circulation of bills or coins, so far as he is concerned, is scantier.

Under these circumstances, it is altogether problematical whether expanding or contracting a currency can have any such effect on prices as is commonly supposed, so long as the true value of each piece of money remains unaltered. For prices simply represent the value of money in relation to other things, and are determined by the quantity of all money, abstract as well as concrete, compared with the quantity of those other things. The value of a dollar being thus got at, it is tolerably certain that to increase the number of dollars of one kind will pretty surely cause an automatic decrease of dollars of another kind, after due allowance is made, of course, for avoiding an absolute famine of the concrete dollars, which are still indispensable for the "small change dealings" of commerce. To change the value of each dollar employed is quite another thing, involving dishonesty to some one concerned, and this can be done by doctoring the concrete dollars, only so long as the denominations of these are accepted as a basis for the calculations in which the abstract dollars really consist. The condition under which this occurs is important to remember, as it is perfectly conceivable that if the value of concrete dollars were to become too uncertain, not only would future contracts be calculated in terms of something else, but even current domestic transactions would also follow the example already set by international trade, and be carried on more than ever by means of abstract money, expressed in some other terms than those of ordinary currency.

Quality, not quantity, would therefore seem to be the true desideratum in selection of a currency medium, and this mainly to insure that the denominator of both the concrete and the abstract forms of money shall remain the same. The object of endeavoring to secure this uniformity is to avoid the expensive labor and the confusion incident to the translation of the terms of small transactions (for which ordinary currency is chiefly used) wherever these mingle with large transactions in which such currency is hardly used at all.

Edward J. Shriver was born at Cumberland, Md., February 18, 1856, and came to New York early in 1878. For a short time he was a reporter on the Tribune, but in 1879 engaged in the iron business, and ten years later was instrumental in forming the New York Metal Exchange, of which he has been secretary since its organization. Originally a Republican, he came to the support of Cleveland in 1884 on the tariff issue, and from 1884 to 1888 he took an active part in what was known as the George movement, he having become a convert to "Progress and Poverty" as far back as 1879. In 1888 he was treasurer of the Cleveland Single Tax Committee, of which the late Wm. T. Croasdale was chairman.

ADOPTING THE SINGLE TAX.

The following leading editorial of the Daily News Advertiser, of Vancouver, British Columbia, will interest people who have either rejoiced or sorrowed over what may have seemed to them the hopelessness of the single tax movement:

Three or four years ago, the mention of "single tax" brought up in the minds of many persons a set of cranks who had gone mad on a particular crotchet. Yet, to-day, the principles which these "cranks" advocated have adherents among all classes in the community, and many persons who would repudiate the suggestion that they had any sympathy with them, are found favoring a system of taxation, which, if it differs from that referred to, does so in degree rather than in the principle upon which it is based. That this is the fact, a reference to the proceedings of the Councils of Vancouver, Victoria, and New Westminster will abundantly prove. In New Westminster the Council took such a long stride towards "single tax," that some of the members of it have since become almost frightened at their own boldness. In Vancouver the tendency of the policy of the City Council for the last one or two years has been in the direction of gradually reducing the rate per cent. of the assessment on the improvements on lots, while increasing the amount levied on realty. In Victoria, at the last meeting of the City Council, a resolution to reduce the assessment by fifty per cent. was carried, while some Aldermen went as far as to advocate "single tax" pure and simple. With such facts it cannot be disputed that the principle, whether sound or not, has been practically adopted, and it matters but little by what name it is called, or by what method it is introduced, if the results at which it aims are adopted.

It will be interesting to follow the further progress of the movement, to observe whether it is carried still further to its ultimate logical conclusion, and to note the results which spring from it. If good arguments can be adduced for a very considerable reduction in the rate at which the improvements on a lot are assessed, as compared with that fixed in regard to the realty on which the improvements are situated, it will be a matter of some difficulty to deny the proposition that the abolition of all taxation on improvements is not the proper policy to adopt. The question, therefore, however it may be disguised, is really before the people of the various cities at the present time, and without any definite declaration of the policy or violent disturbance of the existing state of things, it would seem that the Councils and the people of the principal cities of British Columbia are settling the matter in a practical way, and with an absence of friction or violent methods that would have appeared impossible only three years ago.

HONEST AND BRAVE.

Kansas City Star.

Jerry Simpson says the farmers will drop the Sub-Treasury craze and that free coinage must give way to tariff reform. It is popular in some quarters to characterize Simpson as a demagogue, but there are both wisdom and courage in this utterance. He represents a district that is widely infected with Sub-Treasury and free coinage, and a less honest man would not express his antagonism to them so freely, especially since he is a candidate for re-election.

DOGS IN THE MANGER.

Charles E. Garst.

If you want no "dogs in the manger," holding land which they will neither use nor let others use—adopt the single tax.

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

The Single Tax is a tax on land, regardless of its improvements and in proportion to its value. It implies the abolition of all other forms of taxation, and the collection of the public revenues from this source alone. It would be CERTAIN, because land values are most easily appraised; WISE, because, by discouraging the withdrawal of land from use and encouraging its improvement, it would expand opportunities for labor, augment wealth, and increase the rewards of industry and thrift; EQUAL, because every one would pay taxes in proportion to the value of the land, of right the common property of all, which he appropriated to his own use; and JUST, because it would fall not upon labor, enterprise, and thrift, but upon the value of a special privilege. It is more fully explained in the Single Tax Platform in another column; and in "Progress and Poverty," by Henry George, every point is discussed and every objection answered.

The underlying principle of the single tax—that the earth belongs equally to all, and that the best way to secure substantial justice is to tax the occupant an amount equal to the yearly value of the land—is sound.—Journal of the Knights of Labor, September 24, 1891.

We have no hesitation in declaring our belief that the ideal taxation lies in the Single Land Tax, laid exclusively on the rental value of land, independent of improvements.—New York Times, January 10, 1891.

The best and surest subject of taxation is the thing that perforce stays in one place; that is land.—New York Sun, August 26, 1891.

Every one of these taxes [on commodities and buildings] the ostensible taxpayer—the man on the assessor's books—shifts to other shoulders. The only tax he cannot shift is the tax on his land values.—Detroit News, November 1, 1891.

The Bee does not say that it will never be a full-fledged single tax advocate. It believes in it in theory now; it pauses only on the threshold of doubt as to the expediency under existing circumstances.—Sacramento (Cal.) Bee.

The products of individual industry should remain at all times untaxed. Take the annual rental value of land without regard for improvements, no matter what it amounts to. The community could put this fund to better uses than the individual landlords.—St. Louis Chronicle.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE.

The National Committee is carrying on the newspaper work of the Memphis committee in supplying news companies with single tax matter for their ready prints and plates, and is preparing the petition for presentation to Congress.

The deficit on fund for running expenses of office remains as reported last week, viz $14 94

Contributions to special fund for preparing petition for presentation for week ending March 7 are as follows:

J. S. Maclean, Columbus, Ohio	$2 00
Previously acknowledged	155 70
Total	$157 70

The enrollment stands as follows:

Reported last week	115,366
Signatures received since last report	59
Total	115,425

GEO. ST. JOHN LEAVENS, Secretary.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK CITY.—**It was a crowded meeting that greeted Professor Seligman last Sunday night, when he lectured on "Reform in Taxation," at the Manhattan Single Tax Club, No. 73 Lexington avenue. He spoke for an hour and a half, opposing the tariff and arguing that national revenues should be raised by indirect taxation, State revenues by corporation taxes, succession taxes, and collateral inheritance taxes, and local revenues by the single tax on land values supplemented by the French method of taxing individuals in proportion to the rent they pay. Owing to the lateness of the hour, only one reply was made, that by Edward Osgood Brown, of Chicago, and it was arranged with Professor Seligman that the debate should be continued on a date to be fixed by him.**

The Club protests against the profligate granting of public franchises to private corporations, holding to the doctrine of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, and that where the public interests are best subserved by granting special privileges, the beneficiaries should fully recompense the community for advantages conferred. It adopted the following:

We feel a deep resentment against the supposed representatives of the people for giving away valuable public franchises without regard to the rights of their constituents, who will be obliged to pay tribute to corporations if this attempted steal be legitimized. It is most exasperating. A conquering army could not lay heavier burdens upon the people than has the Legislature in its careless disregard of the people's welfare. It is not the people's desire that these franchises should be made prizes for party advantages, and we submit that the most dangerous anarchists are now banded together in the State Capitol at Albany. In prostituting the powers entrusted to them by the people whose interests they are pledged to promote, they threaten the stability and peace of the State. We warn intending purchasers of these stolen privileges that it is a precarious property, and that when the people, in their righteous indignation, revoke and cancel the obligations made in their name by a corrupt Legislature, the plea of innocent purchasers will not avail them. We respectfully petition the Governor to veto these pernicious bills.

The Democratic Free Trade League is forging ahead. At the meeting of the executive committee last Saturday evening the chairmen of the various districts reported considerable progress. A number of the districts had held parlor meetings, as recommended by the committee on the previous Saturday night, and were much encouraged by the results. The enrollment is growing, and free traders who have not yet sent in their signatures are urged to do so.

BROOKLYN.—**The Monroe Circle of the Economic Reading Circle held another very successful class at the residence of Mrs. Mary ter Meer, on the 5th inst. There were present fourteen men and twenty two women. A letter was read from the general secretary, Miss C. Estella Bachman, informing the circle of the widespread interest in the movement, as was shown by the number of letters received from all parts of the country since notice of the Economic Reading Circle appeared in THE STANDARD.**

The Lesson of the Day, "What is Capital?" was read by Professor Wilmarth, and it was discussed with much animation for more than the prescribed time of one hour, the ladies, who are much interested in this movement, entering into the debate with as keen an enjoyment as did the men.

This plan of the Economic Reading Circle, of meeting in the parlors of its members for educational and social purposes, is one that may be adopted by single taxers in any place where five or six of them can come together.

A debate on the Single Tax versus Socialism between Daniel de Leon, editor of the People, and Louis F. Post, editor of THE STANDARD, occurred under the auspices of D. A. 220, K. of L., on Sunday afternoon. The hall was crowded, and the debate turned principally on the question of whether it is monopoly of land alone or of land and implements of production together that keeps wages down. Mr. Post argued that if it were not for monopoly of land, labor could not be deprived of implements of production, since it is by labor from land that implements of production are made. Mr. de Leon insisted that labor cannot get the benefit of implements of production without common ownership of such implements as well as of land.

LONG ISLAND CITY.—**The Long Island Star, which also publishes a Greenpoint edition, has opened its columns for the discussion of the question of taxation. In a recent issue the editor declares:**

There is abundant evidence on every side that the momentous question of a proper distribution of the public burdens is daily growing of interest. This is one of the encouraging signs of the times and fully demonstrates the fact that the world is steadily pushing forward along the road to progress, and anything tending to aid in the betterment of the condition of the masses along this line cannot but attract the close attention of the reading public. Discussion on the subject of taxation is therefore in order, and as we have previously announced, the columns of the Star are at the service of the public.

Long Island single tax men should keep their eye on this paper and take part in the discussion. The paper circulates all over Long Island and the eastern district of Brooklyn.

PORT JERVIS.—**Wilmot M. Vail, the single tax assessor for the town of Deerpark, has just been elected for the third time. He received 353 votes more than his Republican opponent, a larger majority by seventy-two than the Democratic candidate for collector received. It was the largest majority of any Democratic candidate, except the supervisor.**

The effect of the single tax movement here has shown itself in the columns of the Orange County Farmer, which, in a leading editorial on the confused subject of personal property taxation, says:

There is one way out of this difficulty, and that is the correct one. It is to tax land values only; not land, mind you, but land values. That is the bugbear that has scared many, simply because they did not examine into the truth of the theory. They took it for granted, as the monopolists told them, that it would increase the taxes on land, very naively keeping out of sight the important word values, which qualifies and makes the whole system a benefit to the farmer, and a system feared by the city landlord. It is the latter who is side-tracking our farmer friends, because a land value system of taxation would shift the burden to the localities where the land values are the highest.

The system is simple, plain, and practical, and the city landlords see it. Hence their thus far successful efforts to hoodwink the people with the story that it would "relieve personal property of all taxation, and place it all on the lands of the poor farmers." Sympathetic, philanthropic souls! How they do love the dear farmer! Watch the tone of the city press; listen to the pleadings of the Wall street gamblers, and the monopolists generally. Does one of them favor abandoning the present system and taxing only land values?

This paper, the Orange County Farmer, was established in 1881; its circulation is greater than that of all the other papers of Orange County combined; and it wields a great influence among the farmers of Northern New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania, and all Eastern New York. It is read by over 50,000 people in agricultural communities.

MIDDLETOWN.—**Richard M. Rorty writes: Although we have no regular organization here, yet a vigorous propaganda of "single tax ethics" is kept going by a few earnest believers in the doctrine. We find an object for our efforts in the iniquitous methods of assessment for purposes of taxation prevalent here. The system of our assessors in this city and township is to assess the largest and most valuable properties at about from 15 to 20 per cent. of their market value; for example, a lot in the centre of the city for which the owner refused $32,000 is assessed $3,600, one worth $20,000 is assessed $4,250, one valued at $40,000 assessed $7,600, and this rating prevails throughout the entire city. Vacant lots costing $1,000 to $2,000 are assessed at $50 and $100. One large property, containing about five hundred building lots, is assessed at $4,600. The single lots are held at from $250 to $500.**

This as a sample of the larger properties and how they are taxed. On the other hand, take a number of smaller properties of the market value of $100,000, and you will find they are assessed at from $40,000 to $60,000; whereas the same amount, $100,000, in two or four lots in the centre, and the property of the wealthy, is assessed at from $20,000 to $30,000.

The result of these methods is that the small property holders bear the burden of taxation, and virtually pay one-half the taxes of the wealthy in addition to their own proper share. Lots are held for speculative purposes, paying little if any taxes, and thus the poor man who wishes to own a home is, at the outset, compelled to pay twice the value of the lot to the speculator, the "dog in the manger."

In order to change this state of things the nomination for assessor on the Prohibition and the Democratic tickets was obtained by the Rev. C. M. Winchester. Usually this would have been almost equivalent to an election; but all the rich and selfish elements, all those who were escaping payment of taxes, all the ignorant, illiterate, and prejudiced, every element which money and its influence could affect, succeeded by united effort in defeating our candidate by 194 in a vote of about 2,300. But the end is not yet. We intend to compel a complete revision of the assessments, or we will (by legal methods) block the next tax levy and stop the robbery.

MASSACHUSETTS.

BOSTON.—**The headquarters of the Massachusetts Single Tax League are now at 630 Washington street. The rooms have been refurnished, and a new piano purchased. The league will keep open house evenings and Sun-**

days. The Boston Single Tax Club will hold public meetings every Sunday afternoon at 2:30 at the league's headquarters, when live issues will be discussed by good speakers.

WEST VIRGINIA.

PARKERSBURG.—W. I. Boreman writes: A revaluation of real estate is made in this State about once in ten years, and the appraisers are directed to assess the land value separate from the improvements. The men who appraised this winter—one of them, at least—happened to be single taxers. They obeyed the law as to valuing the land at its actual value (spot cash, forced sale), and such a jolly row as it has kicked up among the vacant land owners on the principal streets! The editor of the State Journal, E. B. White, of Parkersburg, a bitter protectionist and opponent of what he thinks is the single tax idea, is among the "kickers."

Will the letter writing corps open on him? It will do us an amount of good just now that can not be estimated. He has the ear of all the farmers and protectionist town folks in this end of the State.

The Democracy are getting into shape with clubs and societies to push the campaign. Gorman is the favorite with the office hunting class, though the mass of the people like Cleveland best. If anybody, that knows, will publish Gorman's "tariff" record, it will greatly oblige the free traders here. He is nothing but a rank protectionist; but we must have the evidence, with dates and particulars.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Warren Worth Bailey writes: The Chicago Single Tax Club has made another great gain in the person of Capt. J. F. Waters, until recently a resident of Kansas City, where he was an active worker in the single tax cause. He made his debut before our organization on the 3d inst. with an address on "What Is and What Might Be," and he won instant favor. Captain Waters is a speaker of much more than ordinary ability. He has wit, humor, originality and an unusual power of expression. His oratorical abilities are striking and he has the happy faculty of telling a good story in a capital way. His address was interesting from start to finish. Captain Waters's audience was a large one and it was thoroughly interested. Mr. White, the Rev. A. J. Cleare, Mr. Cooling, and one or two others joined in the general discussion, and on the whole there was, as our Methodist friends would say, a season of "great refreshing."

The election of officers resulted as follows: For president, Warren Worth Bailey; for vice-presidents, Miss Leonora Beck, John Z. White, Jos. T. Ripley; for secretary-treasurer, Frank W. Irwin.

Next Thursday evening Thomas W. Handford will address the club on "Henry George's Reply to the Pope's Encyclical." On the last Thursday evening in March the speaker will be Mr. Ed. R. Pritchard, a well known newspaper man, who is very much in sympathy with our cause, although not as yet identified with it. The intervening date is not yet filled.

A franchise has just been granted by the city council to some unknown corporation for unknown purposes that caps the climax. It is made in perpetuity, and is practically without limit in any direction. What its value is no one knows, but sober men compute it at $30,000,000. The beneficiaries admit that it is "a valuable asset," and confess that the company has no other. The ordinance was rushed through the council without warning by a compact majority, which had evidently been "seen," and it was signed by Mayor Washburne in the face of a tremendous popular opposition, every paper in the city denouncing the franchise as the worst that was ever put through the council. It is believed that the Mayor himself is interested in this amazing scheme, and his open defiance of the people in confirming the scandalous action of a notoriously corrupt council justifies the suspicion that his motives were rather worse than questionable. The franchise is granted to a company whose ostensible purpose is the supply of compressed air for heat and power, but it is so framed that under its terms the pipes which the company is authorized to lay "upon, along and under all the streets, avenues, alleys and public places" of the city may be used for conveying anything except gas and oil. The Mayor has offered a flimsy excuse for his action, the plea that by the use of compressed air the smoke nuisance will be abated; but the statement merely shows the true animus of all the anti-smoke agitation of the past few months. The war on smoke was a blind, and the activity of the Mayor in it is explained in the light of this infamous ordinance. Even the present defiantly corrupt Council would not have dared to pass such a shameless measure if it had not had the apparent justification of a popular demand for relief from the soot and grime and smoke that now prevail.

But the deed is done, and the people may suck their thumbs. This generation and all future generations are irrevocably bound by this transcendent act of infamy. There isn't a sane man in Chicago who doubts that the ordinance was conceived in iniquity and brought forth in corruption. But what can be done? Absolutely nothing. The people's hands are tied. A contract has been legally made, and no court will annul it, no matter if every line of it be written in fraud and smeared over with unrighteousness.

And yet pious people lift their hands in holy horror at the rabid talk of social disturbers who rail against the law! They marvel at the disloyalty of those who question the sacredness of our institutions, and cry, "Away with him!" whenever one is bold enough to denounce the acts of public spoliation that are done in the name of law and under the authority of statutes and constitutions.

But a day of reckoning and redress must come. Contracts of this kind will not be permitted to run forever, and those who have made them must expect to be held to a bitter and terrible account.

MISSOURI.

SPRINGFIELD.—John Turner White writes: Eighteen months ago there were only two or three single tax men in this town. Now there are as many hundred, besides numbers who are earnestly studying the subject. If there ever was any prejudice against us here it has vanished. Mr. Hamlin Garland was here three weeks ago and spoke three times, twice to the faculty and students of Drury College, one of the very best institutions of learning in the West. We are just now beginning to get the results of his visit. Ten young men of one of the college societies are avowed single taxers, and three or four of the faculty are studying the subject, having expressed themselves as favorable to it. To show how little prejudice there is, I was yesterday invited to spend an hour in explaining the single tax to the political economy class in the City High School. It was the unanimous request of the class. I accepted the invitation and found about forty young men and women who listened intently to what I said. At the close of my remarks I was warmly requested to repeat the visit whenever I could make it convenient.

The man who does most to advance the single tax cause here is E. W. Grabill. His enthusiasm burns with a steady flame, and he never seems to feel the depression of doubt or discouragement which at times come over the most of us. His assurance compels the most reluctant to give the question honest consideration.

ST. LOUIS.—W. Edwin Brokaw writes: February 26 I attended the regular meeting of the St. Louis Single Tax League. Mr. Boone, an Alliance man from Illinois, addressed the league in defence of the land loan and Sub-Treasury schemes. He declared himself a single tax man, and thought those schemes not out of harmony with the single tax. I was called on to make a few remarks after Mr. Boone spoke, and I took occasion to present my objections to the schemes he had defended. I reminded him that, as a single taxer, he acknowledged that the value of land belongs to the public. Government loans would not be secured by land areas, but by land values; hence the land loan scheme was such a proposition as this: You owe me $15. Instead of my collecting the $15, I am asked to lend you $5 more and take a mortgage on the $15 for security! After my talk Mr. Boone answered questions. He said that if he got money through either of his schemes he could employ a carpenter, for instance, to build him a barn. This revealed the old protection superstition in another form: Let the Government help me, and I will furnish others employment!

Tuesday night I listened to Father Huntington in the Episcopal church of Benton. He preached a thoroughly orthodox sermon, and argued with much force and eloquence that God's will could not be obeyed without applying the single tax. After the meeting I heard a Methodist preacher say: "If that is single tax, then I am a single taxer." But he said he had heard the single tax advocated mostly by infidels, and supposed it was antagonistic to Christianity.

One evening, while stopping with "Uncle Tom," of St. Louis, his landlord came to collect the rent. His landlord is a young man and a producer. Before he left I convinced him that he would gain more as laborer and capitalist than he would lose as landlord, and he bought a copy of "Protection or Free Trade?" to take with him.

KANSAS.

HUTCHINSON.—E. C. Clark writes: I filled my appointment to lecture on single tax at Booth, Kansas. Had a full house of Alliance people of more than average intelligence, and it is safe to say that every person in the audience accepted the single tax as the best and most just system of dealing with land and taxation. Mrs. M. J. Dix, a very intelligent and active woman in the Alliance there, had read Mr. George's letter to the Pope from my hands, and was prepared to be and became very enthusiastic. She will keep the ball rolling. Mr. Dane, a very careful reasoner, asked a question about the rental value now pocketed by the absentee owner, and he was so well satisfied with the answer, "that it would go to the State for the benefit of the people of Kansas," that he saw the cat at once. That whole neighborhood may be set down for the single tax, and will become readers of single tax literature.

Rev. Kirkpatrick, of Hutchinson, to whom I lent "Progress and Poverty," is now reading it and makes it the companion of his bible. He makes an appointment for me in the eastern part of the county, where he has a charge, and we shall have a big meeting soon.

MINNESOTA.

ST. ANTHONY'S PARK.—C. J. Buell writes: At the last meeting of the Single Tax League Nicolay Grevestad opened with a brief address in favor of the Torrens system of land transfer, which would save the expense of abstracts, title insurance, and fees of lawyers for examination. The members of the league heartily favored Mr. Grevestad's recommendation.

A State commission is now at work examining the plan, and is to report at the next session of the Legislature, when we may reasonably expect something to be done.

A great source of corruption and bad laws in this State has been the lack of local self-government. The Legislature has been burdened with all sorts of local matters, with the result that innumerable "wood chucks" have been worked through. At the next election we vote upon an amendment relegating all local matters to the people of the counties and cities respectively, and prohibiting special legislation. It will undoubtedly pass.

CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO.—James S. Reynolds writes: The single tax club meetings have lately been of more than usual interest. On the 21st of February James E. Mills was the speaker, his subject "Privilege vs. Service." Mr. Mills is one of those rare single taxers who have a clear, unerring perception of the marvelously beneficent results that must flow to society from coming into right relations with Mother Earth. It is to him an inspiration from the unseen world; a profound religious conviction. Man restored to right relations to the soil, he sees all privilege disappear, and all the petty questions of reform that vex us vanish. He is a New Churchman, and he treated his subject from that standpoint. Privilege gone, each comes into his own; selfishness, greed, and covetousness have nothing left to feed on; service to his fellowman and not self, must come to be the absorbing aim in the life of every one. Mr. Mills is a scholar, of quiet, polished manners, a clear, almost fluent speaker, and he was listened to with close attention by the audience which packed the hall. After his address the usual contingent of chronic irreconcilables plied him

with questions aimed to dispel the effect, but his instant, courteous, and pointed answers soon made them "tired," and their insincerity conspicuous. Others, in a spirit of honest inquiry, asked and were answered questions with evident satisfaction.

The president, Mr. Leggett, paid his respects to Mr. Horr, whose fallacies on tariff and the single tax lately appeared in the New York Tribune. After reading copious inconsistent extracts from Mr. Horr's article, he with brief comment left the writer a sorry spectacle of ignorance on the subject to which he had given "long and patient study." This opportunity ought not to pass to let Mr. Horr know that he has furnished amusement to a large number of his fellow-citizens. When an ex-Congressman uses columns of a "great moral engine" like the Tribune to tell us that "land is nearly worthless until improved;" who can see no distinction between copy-right and land values and "other property;" who writes of the single tax "confiscating farms;" who mixes the terms land, land values, real estate, and property in charming confusion; who tells us that lifting taxes from labor and the products of labor "is impossible of execution and unfair in application, and would aggravate the difficulties it would alleviate," the "show" rises out of all proportion to one of ordinary merit; it is a roarer—a side-splitter.

Interest is started in an unexpected quarter. Some weeks ago Mr. Leggett and ex-Judge Maguire made a social visit to Mare Island navy yard on invitation of Lieutenant Pendleton and Rev. J. K. Lewis, the chaplain. Single tax and its near relatives were the principal topics of conversation. In the evening Lieutenant Pendleton's quarters were filled with officers, their wives and others, among them Captain Watson, Captain Clark, also the Chief Engineer, and Dr. Dickinson, the surgeon. The gathering soon took the form of an audience and speaker, Judge Maguire taking this role. He expounded the doctrine of "Ground rent for public revenue, and no taxation," and was listened to with undiminished attention for over two hours. Deep interest was awakened. The next morning, being Sunday, all attended church, and after the stated service Chaplain Lewis preached a thorough-going single tax sermon, and gave notice that Judge Maguire would in the evening lecture on the Single Tax in the lyceum adjoining the chapel; and he made urgent request that his hearers attend, stating that he regarded the single tax as nothing short of a religious movement and as a proper subject for Sunday discussion. The meeting was held and the Judge again spoke at length, after which an hour was spent in questions and answers and the kindliest feeling and deepest interest manifested throughout. Captain Remy, of the Charleston, said he was almost a single tax man. Captain Clark, chief of ordnance, declared himself a convert. He said "it is the way out"—the means of escape from social and industrial depression which, if not soon relieved, must lead to most serious disturbance, perhaps violence and bloodshed. Persons from the navy yard visiting this city since, report that the single tax is still the universal theme of conversation there.

Robert Thompson and W. C. Burnett, two old-time and prominent lawyers of this city, are recent accessions. Months ago and several times since I talked with them, apparently without favorable impression. My last effort was to fill them with the ethics. A few days ago Mr. Thompson took occasion to allude to our past conversations, and to say that the moral and ethical reasons for the single tax are self-evident, unanswerable; that he had conversed with Henry George about it before "Progress and Poverty" was written; had heard and read somewhat about it since; and yet so long as it appeared as a mere change in the form of taxation it did not excite in him much interest; but the underlying doctrine of assigning to labor the full product, and to the community ground rent, and for the reason that each is respectively the creator thereof, gives to the subject a different phase. Mr. Thompson has long been a third party prohibitionist and protectionist.

Mr. Burnett said to me a few days ago that the propositions of the single tax are unanswerable, but it was not clear to him how it can be equitably inaugurated. I left him assenting to the fact that the gradual elimination of taxes on persons and property and a corresponding gradual increase of tax on land values could work no one injury. He is a Republican and protectionist.

TEXAS.

HOUSTON.—E. W. Brown writes: A local newspaper, which, however, circulates through the State, the Texas World, has agreed to publish weekly single tax articles, and we are furnishing the articles.

SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

Divisions A, B, C, and D—Members of these divisions, citizens of New York State, will please address, and have as many of their friends as possible address, their respective Assemblymen on the Connolly Home Rule in Taxation bill, which will come up in the Assembly this week. Do not urge single tax considerations, but confine argument to the point that the inhabitants of each county ought to have the right to decide how they will be taxed. Show that some localities want personal property taxation and others want real estate taxation, and that each should be free to choose for itself. This is a very important measure for single taxers, but for the once single tax argument should be neglected while working for its passage.

Divisions E and J—Robert P. Porter, Superintendent Eleventh Census, Washington, D. C.

Divisions I and M—George K. Holmes, Expert on Farm and Home Mortgages, Census Bureau, Washington, D. C.

These gentlemen are now on an important part of the census work for single taxers—mortgages—and letters might be effective.

Division F—The News, Tell City, Ind., is apparently in favor of placing taxation on land. Show how simple it would be to collect a tax on land values, and how it would lessen the burden of new enterprises.

Division G—A lady of means who wishes to apply part of her wealth in philanthropic work, recently asked the New York Times the best method of doing so. Explain to her that the best work is to abolish the causes of poverty. Address "Charity," Box 648, Washington, D. C.

Division H—President Riggs, of the Illinois Bar Association, complains of the inequalities of taxation. Tell him that taxation, when based on the value of land, can neither be avoided nor misrepresented. Chicago Herald of January 30 has editorial comment on his speech.

Division K—Rev. Frederick Stanley Root, Park Church, Hartford, Conn., lectured February 8, defending the poor against the charge of "improvidence." He does not believe single tax a panacea, but does not deny its justice. Explain how monopoly would lose its power of limiting production and raising prices if land were taxed to its rental value.

Division L—Thomas W. Maxwell, Creston, Iowa, President Tax Reform Club. Explain the true method of taxation.

Division N—Professor O. H. Drake, University, Des Moines, Iowa. An energetic, radical thinker, who could be converted if he understood the single tax better.

Divisions O and P—Rev. A. H. Trevis, Nebraska avenue, Kansas City, Mo. A fearless preacher and reformer who advocates what he believes in.

1674 Broadway, New York. MARIAN DANA MACDANIEL, Secretary.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

RENT NOT PART OF PRICE.

We are asked if ground rent is not charged in the price of electric light, by the East River Electric Light Company of New York city, which recently sent a message to the Mayor saying that it was not possible to decrease its bid of sixty cents a lamp per night for lights on Fifth avenue, because of the exorbitant rental of thirty-two cents a lamp exacted by the Subway Company. The point is this: We have said that rent does not enter into price, and since here is a case in which it is asserted, and for all our purposes we may admit truly asserted, that subway tolls do enter into price, is the proposition that rent does not enter into price an invariable truth?

The only method of conducting wires so as to supply lights on Fifth avenue is through a subway for which a fixed price of thirty-two cents a lamp is charged. No lights can be furnished without this payment. Therefore this payment is part of the cost of production. It is not economic rent at all. In so far as it is not compensation for the labor of maintaining the subway it is like gate money, or blackmail, or the tariff. If all land commanded rent, the rent of the poorest in use would enter into prices, but not that of the better so far as it was in excess of the rent of the other. That is to say, if the poorest land rented for 10, 10 would enter into the price of all products, whether produced from land yielding a rent of 10 or land yielding a rent of 100. The reason is that no production would be possible on better terms. This is the case with the supply of electric lights through the subway. The difference between the rent of the poorest lands in use and that of better lands does not enter into price, because production is possible without the payment of that difference, and two things of equal quality can not sell at the same time in the same market for different prices. If the East River Electric Light Company includes thirty-two cents a lamp for subway rent in the price of its light, that is because thirty-two cents is the lowest obtainable rent for subway privileges.

EXEMPTING MONEY FROM TAXATION.

James D. Tracy, of Kurten, Texas, asks what we should do, under the single tax, with people who have plenty of money and no land.

Mr. Tracy makes a common mistake in supposing that any one has plenty of money and no land. He is mistaken, too, if he supposes that any one, whether with or without land, has plenty of money. What rich men have is not money, but the power of obtaining money, when they want it and as they want it, from the general stock.

If this power is their labor, if whenever they take money out of the general stock they put something of their own production into the circle of trade, it is a power that benefits others as well as themselves; and, so far from contriving some method of burdening them, society ought to endeavor in all possible ways to relieve them of burdens, and to encourage them in what they are doing. Rich men, no matter how rich they are, harm no one, so long as they render a full return in their own labor for all the wealth they get. No honest man who understands this proposition will dispute it.

But if their power is the ownership of some indispensable thing, which the owner did not himself make nor receive as a voluntary transfer from some one who did make it, so that when they take money out of the general stock of money they put no labor of their own into the circle of trade, they get money for nothing. Hence, since money is a medium of trade, they get the property of other people for nothing. That power is injurious. But we cannot diminish it by burdening all people who can command money, regardless of the method by which they command it. If we attempt that, we burden the just and the unjust alike. What we must do is to attack the bad method and strengthen the good one.

It is primarily and principally the ownership of land that enabies men to take money out of the general stock without putting its equivalent into the circle of trade; and, if land were taxed according to its value, this power, to the extent of the tax, would be destroyed.

TAX LAND VALUES AND ENCOURAGE IMPROVEMENT.

Boston Herald.

Mr. Henry George has pointed out, in an exceedingly lucid manner, that a large part of the value given to real estate in and near great centres of population is due wholly to the growth in population, and practically in no degree to the action of the owner of the real estate. He lies dormant, while his property grows in value in consequence of what may be termed public action. While it may not be expedient to adopt radical means of collecting this unearned increment for public purposes, it does not seem

necessary that the town and city governments should grant special favors to these speculative landowners.

A man owns, let us say, fifty acres of land in a growing community, which he holds in an entirely unproductive manner in the anticipation of a future large increase in worth. This land is valued by the assessors for purposes of taxation at, say, $500 an acre. Thinking it desirable to secure settlers, he sells from his large estate a plot of 10,000 feet of land. The chances are that if this is built upon, the assessors will value this small holding—the land, not the building—at, say, ten cents a foot, or at the rate of more than $4,000 an acre, or eight times more than the other unimproved and unoccupied land is valued at.

We instance this as an illustration of a method which has found numerous applications, but which is, none the less, in our opinion, indefensible. There is clearly no reason why the occupier of land who enters it for the purpose of improvement should be called upon to pay a greatly disproportionate share of public taxation. If there are to be favors granted for the purpose of encouraging wage earners and persons of humble means to build homes for themselves, the builder and improver, and not the land speculator, is the one who should be looked upon with consideration. As it is now, the establishment of homes is to quite a degree restricted by the absorption of land by speculative holders, and it is certainly no discouragement to them to have their land valued and assessed at but a small fraction of its worth. It is true that it may not be a revenue producing investment, but that is merely because the holders prefer to have it remain unoccupied.

New Bedford Daily Mercury.

We quite agree with the Herald's conclusion.

OBJECT LESSONS.

This department contains facts, gathered from all parts of the world, that are of current interest and permanent value, and illustrate social and political problems. Information from trustworthy sources is solicited.

LAND VALUES FOLLOW IMPROVEMENTS.

The Hayden-Coggeshall estate at the north end of Bedford, Mass., was recently sold to a Boston syndicate. The tract comprises 575 feet on Acushnet avenue, 460 feet on Coggeshall street, 478 feet on Sawyer street, and 385 feet on Bowditch street. The purchase price was the highest ever paid for a tract of land at the north part of the city.

The present buildings will be moved and others torn down to put streets through the property. It is also intended to have sewers built, streets graded, trees set out, and everything put in first-class shape for building.

This is a very desirable piece of property and will sell in small lots very readily and enhance in value very much in the next two years.

EFFECT OF PROTECTION ON EMPLOYMENT.

Theodore J. Werner writes from Newark: The fact that the extension or establishment of any industry by means of tariff legislation is always at the expense of the destruction or crippling of some other and self-sustaining industry, and that any employment which tariff legislation may provide for some workmen is always at the expense of a greater number, by it thrown out of employment, is well known to all that have done any thinking on the subject. It is evident that it must be so from the nature of the case, and this fact has had some striking illustrations in Newark.

The firm of "Edward Balbach & Son," otherwise known as the "Newark Smelting and Refining Works," on the bank of the Passaic, is rated by R. G. Dun & Co. as A. A. 1. It employs a large number of men and does a business running far up into the millions. I long ago heard that a branch of the business had been destroyed by the tariff, but wishing to be sure, I telephoned to the office and asked for Mr. E. Balbach, Jr., the president of the company. When he came to the telephone the following conversation ensued:

"What do you wish?"

"Are you willing to give any information as to how the passage of the McKinley bill affected your business?"

"Whom do you represent?"

"THE STANDARD, of New York."

"The damage that legislation did us is an old story to me now."

"I have understood that one branch of your business, the smelting of Mexican ores, was destroyed by the passage of that bill. Is that true?"

"Yes, completely destroyed."

"I also understood that a number of your men were thrown out of employment by reason of this tariff legislation, and that if there had been no legislation you would have enlarged your plant in that line and employed many more men. Is that true?"

"Yes."

"How many men were you obliged to discharge on this account?"

"Wait a moment."

Mr. Balbach, on returning to the telephone, answered:

"Over two hundred."

"How much would you have increased your force if there had been no tariff legislation?"

"I should have trebled it, at least."

DIFFERENT OBJECTS IN THE SAME PATH.

K. of L. Journal.

THE STANDARD is dissatisfied with Mr. Roger Q. Mills. The Texan statesman or politician, whichever you will, is disposed to hedge somewhat on the tariff question, and to let it appear that when he says free trade he don't exactly mean it, and THE STANDARD don't like that sort of thing. Our contemporary should not be unreasonable. When it advocates free trade it does so because it thinks that would be a step in the direction of the single tax, but when Mr. Mills and other politicians advocate it they do so because they think that is the way to political power and success. Both look on it as a means to an end, but both do not keep their eyes fixed on the same end.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

——H. W. Shearer, of Galveston, Tex., writes: I have just been reading in the February 24th issue of THE STANDARD "The Platform of the Single Tax League of the United States;" and any thinking workingman that reads it, or anyone else, must see how true it is. I wish I had $1,000 to send you to help circulate THE STANDARD. Before, I always thought Henry George a visionary sort of a man; but I see I was wrong and I understand single tax ideas better than I did.

——W. Edwin Brokaw writes from Des Moines, Ia.: In a recent article in THE STANDARD Mr. Shearman attempted to make it plain why an attempt at direct Federal taxation just at this time would be utterly useless and only hinder the progress of the single tax idea. Those who are familiar with Mr. Shearman's writings are apt to hesitate before taking issue with him upon any subject, but I feel justified in doing so in this case, partly because I have been very active in calling attention to the petition referred to, and and partly because of my conviction that it is the line of least resistance. I sent the petition to quite a number of prominent single tax workers, and received unfavorable opinions only from Colorado and New York.

If the West has the population and the East the wealth, is it not due to the present unjust system which robs the producer? Do not the idle rich gravitate toward the East and there absorb their "interest" and rent from the West? If population causes both land values and public expenses (a proposition I have never heard refuted), it would seem that, under the conditions the single tax would bring about, a tax upon land values would only be a tax according to population. The tariff is one of the causes for the few of the East having more wealth than the many of the West. Abolish the tariff and part of the wealth that is being drained from the West will remain here. And the nearer we approach the single tax the nearer will the ratio of population to wealth become.

But Mr. Shearman admits that the present system produces "even worse results" than would the direct tax we urge. Then is not our proposed direct tax a step in the right direction? He admits more. He says that "the West would gain largely by the abolition of the tariff, even if direct taxes were levied upon this unjust principle." Then why are efforts in this direction any more "useless" than efforts to get wool or binding twine on the free list? If it be an "unjust principle," it is certainly no more unjust in principle than an income tax. For if I earn (produce) my income, government has no right to tax it so long as any land values remain in private hands.

My whole life has been spent in the West. My work in Dakota was almost wholly among farmers. I joined the Alliance there. I am fully convinced I can get two signers to the above petition where I got one to the single tax petition. Men who have refused to sign the single tax petition have told me they would gladly sign one like the above. Not one man in a hundred would ever think of the objections Mr. Shearman raises, and consequently would not see the need of a constitutional amendment. If an amendment be deemed necessary to make a direct tax equitable, what better way of getting the people to see it than by demonstrating the necessity? Adopt the tax and then you can get "facts and figures" to prove that the West pays more than its share—admitting that to be the case—and thus arouse their efforts to secure an amendment. They must feel the need of it before they will ask for it. Few people look far enough ahead to see the need of such an amendment, while we have an indirect tax system. Will not the circulation of such a petition be the quickest way to create a sentiment in favor of an amendment?

Mr. Shearman says that "every Western dollar would be taxed twice or thrice as heavily as an Eastern dollar." The very prevalent idea that taxation should be according to wealth is erroneous. Taxation should be according to the monopoly of natural opportunities. I should pay taxes in proportion to the benefits I receive from the expenditure of public funds, not in proportion to my production and accumulation of wealth.

Finally: It remains to be shown that a tax according to population would be unjust, or wrong in principle, if land values alone were taken. It has already been shown that an income tax is both unjust and wrong in principle. Should we support, as a temporary measure, a proven evil in preference to a supposed evil, especially when the latter can be suported by single-tax arguments and the former cannot?

POLITICAL COALITION IN KANSAS.

It is reported from Topeka, Kan., that a proposition for combination between the People's and Democratic parties has been confirmed. A member of the People's Executive Committee is authority for the statement that the proposition is as follows: The Democrats will support the People's Electors' ticket and give them the entire State ticket, with the exception of the Associate Judge. The Democrats will indorse the People's Congressional nominees in the five districts now represented by Alliance Congressmen, and the People's party will indorse the Democratic nominees in the First and Second Districts, now represented by Republicans, and give the Democrats the Congressman at Large.

THERE MUST BE A SQUARE RECKONING.

After quoting in full a STANDARD editorial, concluding with the proposition that "under the circumstances, opposition to Hill cannot be effective unless it crystalizes into united support of Cleveland," the Hayes Valley (San Francisco, Cal.) Advertiser says that the editorial "shows a feeling that is not to be despised; it is the sentiment of a body of men who must be reckoned with on the square. They can neither be bribed with wind pudding nor frightened with threats."

GOOD POLITICS.

Judge (Rep.)

Governor Boyd, of Nebraska, should have had his chair months ago. The Republican party of no section of this country can afford to make a D. B. Hill of itself.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

DOMESTIC.

The New York Grand Jury has rebuked the Rev. Dr. Parkhurst for his failure to bring to the jury what to it should appear satisfactory evidences of the truth of charges made in the pulpit against the city government in its relations to violations of the excise laws. The Grand Jury seems to have undertaken the defence of Tammany.

The United States Supreme Court declines to interfere to prevent the sale of the British vessel, the Saynard, seized by our authorities in Behring Sea. This was the case appealed by the owners at the instance of the British Government to the United States Supreme Court. The decision is against the owners, but the court declines to decide whether or not Behring Sea is a closed sea, that is, the private property of the United States.

Lord Salisbury will not consent to a renewal of the *modus vivendi* or temporary agreement with us, entered into last year for the protection of Behring Sea seals, pending a settlement of the Behring Sea question.

Premier Abbott stated at Ottawa, Ont., that the Behring Sea dispute had been settled with the exception of an agreement as to the best methods of protecting the seal.

The United States Supreme Court decides that a preacher is not a laborer within the meaning of the United States contract labor act, and that Trinity Church, New York, may therefore import the Rev. E. Walpole Warren from Great Britain.

Senator Sherman wrote a letter strongly protesting against political bossism. He said that extravagance was promoted and taxation raised by placing complete power in the hands of party managers.

The Rhode Island State Democratic Convention was held at Providence. Lieutenant Governor Wardwell was nominated for Governor, and Charles E. Gorman for Lieutenant-Governor. The delegates to the national convention were instructed to vote for Mr. Cleveland for the Presidential nomination.

Under a decision of Assistant Secretary of the Interior Bussey 50,000 Pennsylvania militiamen became pensionable.

The Senate ratified the Berne treaty for the protection of patents.

The Senate by a vote of fifty-five to five decided to retain Senator Dubois, of Idaho, in his seat.

Ex-President Noah Porter, of Yale University, is dead.

The salt combination in western New York has broken up, and the price is falling rapidly. Already there have been cuts amounting to about 40 per cent. on dairy salt, and about 30 per cent. on common salt. The agreement which has been in force for some years expired by the time limit on Jan. 1, and has not been renewed. There were negotiations for a new agreement, but some of the producers wanted stronger terms, and so the trust went to pieces. The combination has all along enjoyed the benefits of the protective tariff.

Hon. Edwards Pierrepont, Minister to England under President Grant's administration, died of paralysis at his home in New York, aged 79 years.

The resolution appointing March 22, 23 and 24 for consideration of the free silver bill in the House was carried against the protests and some filibustering of the anti-silver Democrats, by a vote of 189 to 85.

FOREIGN.

Serious political riots took place in various towns in Japan, many persons being killed and wounded. The campaign is being prosecuted with great vigor. Some of the opposition papers have been suppressed by the Government.

Etienne Arago, the French writer, dramatist and statesman, died in Paris. He was born in 1802, and was the last surviving brother of the astronomer, Francois Arago.

Three hundred lives were lost in a storm at Oporto.

The Greek chamber was prorogued until the 6th inst. It appears that M. Delyannis and his Cabinet declined to resign when requested to do so, and then obtained a vote of confidence. They were then peremptorily dismissed by the king, which is a most unusual piece of conduct for a constitutional monarch. The king will appeal to the people by issuing writs for a new election.

The Vatican has sent instructions to the Papal Nuncio in Paris for the formation of a Republican-Conservative party in order to fight Radicalism. In reply to the Powers it was stated that the Vatican did not intend to display hostility to existing monarchies.

Wednesday being the Pope's 82d birthday a pontifical mass was celebrated in the Sistine Chapel, Rome, which was attended by his Holiness and the Diplomatic Corps. Public prayers for the health of the Pope were offered in the churches.

The Falkland Islands, which have heretofore been graded as a British settlement, have been raised to the rank of a British colony, and it is probable that a military and perhaps a naval station will be established there. The islands are about three hundred miles from Magellan Straits.

LOCAL OPTION IN MUNICIPAL TAXATION.

K. of L. Journal.

A bill is before the New York Legislature embodying the principle of local option in municipal taxation by permitting each county to levy its taxes upon such classes of property as it may choose. The measure is framed in the interests of the single tax movement, in the hope that it can thus take practical shape in some localities sooner than it could be introduced by a general law. We sincerely hope the bill will pass and that other States will approve the principle. Apart altogether from the single tax question, there is no reason why each community should not have the power to regulate its local taxation as it sees fit. Further than this, it would be of practical advantage to see the single tax in force experimentally over an area sufficiently large to enable the public to judge of the results. Practical experience is the only satisfactory test as to the merits of the measure. The trial would be watched with interest by social reformers everywhere, and the issue would go far to settle the question as to how far taxation of land values only is a remedy for industrial evils. By all means let our legislatures facilitate the experiment. The results cannot be worse than our present unequal system of local taxation, and in all likelihood will be much better, even if the measure is found to fall short of being the panacea which many imagine.

PERSONAL.

Eliza Stowe was born at Jamestown, N. Y., January 26, 1845. Her parents were of New England origin, and both were natives of Worcester, Mass. They moved to Wattsburgh, Penn., during her tenth year. After the usual common school education she spent three years at Waterford Academy. Her ambition was to study at Mount Holyoke; but living so far from what was at that time the great seat of learning for young women, she passed, instead, three years at the Lake Erie Seminary, at Painesville, Ohio—a daughter school of Mount Holyoke, having nearly the same course of study and discipline—where she graduated in 1867.

About this time her parents returned to their old home at Jamestown, N. Y., where she remained until her marriage in 1874 to Mr. Edward Twitchell, of Boston. After living in Boston until last summer, they moved to Wollaston Heights, a suburb of Quincy.

The change from a quiet country life to the stimulating atmosphere of a great city like Boston was enough to deepen and broaden a nature less sensitive than hers, and though she enjoyed the city life with its many helps to mental improvement, yet in society, as such, she was never interested. Church benevolent societies, flower missions, day nurseries, each in turn were tried by her; but the strength and time spent seemed far too dear for the weak results, and she lost—but found—her life in books.

The public library was a never-ending feast, and volumes were devoured indiscriminately, until order and better discipline were obtained through Miss A. E. Ticknor's excellent "Society for Study at Home."

One evening her husband insisted on Mrs. Twitchell's going with him to Tremont Temple to hear Henry George. She went with great reluctance, for the pleasure of translating a German story had its fascinations, and seemed a more profitable way to spend the evening. But she came home eager to know more of the great truth of which she had caught only a glimpse. After reading every product of Mr. George's pen that she could find, she turned to the other side; but his critics were all so weak that they only helped to confirm her first impressions. Since then she has been a convert, an advocate, and a tireless worker.

Thomas Cross, single tax merchant, of Madoc, Ont., has been elected Warden of the County Council of Hastings for this year.

E. B. Wiegand, a lawyer, of Reading, Penn., fully accepts the conclusions of Mr. George, as set forth in "Progress and Poverty."

The Rev. Morse Rowell, whose sermon at Cadillac was recently reported in THE STANDARD, is now thoroughly interested in the spread of single tax doctrines.

Paul R. Frothingham, assistant pastor of Unitarian church, and president of "Unity Club," at New Bedford, Mass., is honestly seeking light, and would be a good target for the best pens of the letter-writing corps. He believes in free trade, and concedes that the trouble in the industrial world is caused by unemployed labor. "There are not enough jobs to go around," he says, and he is puzzled by the fact.

Hon. Richard Dalton, a member of the Missouri Legislature, and leading candidate for Governor on the Democratic ticket, is a practical farmer and stands exceptionally high with all classes. He is a leading member of the Farmers' Alliance, but opposes the sub-Treasury idea on principle.

W. C. P. Breckinridge, in the North American Review, predicts a canvass of great earnestness this year, based on sincere differences of opinion regarding the tariff question.

Tudor Jenks, who will be recognized as the author of "Rusticus and and Citycuss," published in THE STANDARD five years ago, is now connected with the Century and the St. Nicholas.

Sidney Rider, of Providence, R. I., is regarded as a valuable ally by the single tax men of that city. He publishes a semi-monthly called "Book Notes," devoted largely to book notices and reviews, and to matter pertaining to the history of Rhode Island, regarding which he is an authority. A staunch free trader and intelligent single taxer, he punctures some old fallacy of the opposition in nearly every issue of his publication.

Dr. Hilton Hammond, of South Bend, Ind., reports a steady growth of the single tax movement in his city.

James Malcolm has left Chicago and located at Ishpeming, Mich. He has been one of the brainiest men of one of the brainiest single tax clubs, that at Chicago.

The North American Review for March contains a paper by Captain John Codman on free ships.

The Rev. Mr. Adams, formerly assistant rector of Trinity Church, New York, but recently rector of Trinity Church, Buffalo, returns to New York as rector of the Church of the Redeemer. Mr. Adams, who is one of the most brilliant of Episcopal pulpit orators, loses no seasonable opportunity of declaring and proving his faith in the single tax.

Colonel A. A. Pope appears in the March Forum with an article on good roads.

Alderman McIntyre, of Detroit, who had not before been suspected of

Georgeism, declared a few days ago in a speech in the Board on the question of sidewalks along vacant lots, that if he could have his way all vacant land would be taxed so high that it could not be held for a rise in value. He made a thoroughly good single tax speech.

Edward Everett Hale still conducts the department of Comic Economics in the Cosmopolitan.

Seymour Stedman has been doing some good lecturing work in Chicago.

M. W. Walker, of Axford, Wash., has been plying the Montesano Vidette, of the same State, with cogent single tax arguments.

The Detroit News describes Howard Holmes as an agitator whose earnestness in the advocacy of the single tax leads him to lose no opportunity to make a convert, and it adds that his quiet presentation of Henry George's theories to Aldermen and others is making itself apparent.

S. E. Moffet, the Washington correspondent of the San Francisco Examiner, who is known as a single tax man, is contributing to his paper a thoughtful and readable series of articles on the tariff.

Charles Frederick Holden as editor and Andrew Brown as general manager, appear to have scored a success with The California Illustrated Magazine, which from 5,000 circulation with the first number has leaped to 25,000 with the fifth.

Joseph S. Moore, a prominent free trader, who is better identified as the "Parsee Merchant," the nom de plume under which he used to contribute free trade articles to the press, died at New York on Saturday, the 5th of March.

C. J. Buell is recommended by the Democrats of his locality as a delegate to the State Convention to choose national delegates from Minnesota.

Prof. Richard T. Ely, leaves the John Hopkin's University at Baltimore to become director of the new University school of economics, history, and civics of Wisconsin.

PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

THE STANDARD is a weekly paper of sixteen pages, and is the leading single tax and free trade periodical of the world. Its subscription price is $2.00 a year, payable in advance.

Standard Extension List for 1892.—To introduce THE STANDARD to new readers, the publisher will receive from persons not already subscribers, subscriptions for 1892 at $1.00. This offer is *not for one year*, but for the period from date of receipt of subscription *to the last issue of* 1892.

Payment for The Standard.—All checks and post office orders should be drawn simply to the order of THE STANDARD. In remitting in postage stamps, ones and twos are preferred to those of larger denomination. By complying strictly with this request, correspondents will save the publisher much trouble.

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Communications.—All communications for publication should be addressed to Editor of THE STANDARD. Business letters should be invariably addressed to THE STANDARD, 42 University Place, New York, N. Y.

CIRCULATION OF "THE STANDARD."

Regular subscriptions received this week	23
Extension " " "	105
Total subscriptions for week ending March 7	128
Unexpired subscriptions	5,100
Sales, etc	827
On hand for future sales	150
Total circulation, issue of March 9	6,205

For the purpose of enabling regular subscribers to see whether or not their respective States are sufficiently represented in the Extension List, we give the list by States. We make no comment; each subscriber may make his own. The list is as follows:

Alabama	6	Mississippi	1
Arkansas	11	Montana	13
California	48	Nebraska	20
Canada	118	New Hampshire	7
Colorado	31	New Jersey	124
Connecticut	58	New Mexico	15
Delaware	12	New York	382
District of Columbia	38	North Carolina	1
England	4	Ohio	96
Florida	6	Oklahoma Territory	1
Georgia	5	Oregon	62
Illinois	72	Pennsylvania	141
Indiana	16	Rhode Island	36
Indian Territory	1	South Dakota	13
Iowa	112	Texas	38
Idaho	1	Tennessee	21
Kansas	28	Utah	7
Kentucky	11	Vermont	6
Louisiana	7	Virginia	13
Maryland	5	West Virginia	9
Massachusetts	132	Wisconsin	15
Missouri	69	Washington	34
Maine	34	Wyoming	1
Minnesota	128		
Michigan	111	Total	2,121
Mexico	1		

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Enclosed find $1 for subscription to THE STANDARD for remainder of year 1892, as per your Extension offer.

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We have a limited number of subscriptions to THE STANDARD at our disposal for the year 1892. Friends of the paper wishing to place it in libraries, or to send it to new readers who are likely to become permanent subscribers, may have their orders supplied free by sending names and addresses to us. These papers are paid for out of funds contributed by friends who have not the time nor the facilities for soliciting subscribers.

OF COURSE IT IS NOT RIGHT.

Springfield Republican.

A poor miner discovered a rich vein of silver Sunday on Batchelor mountain, near Creede, Col. The find has already brought him an offer of $100,000 in cash for his claim, which he refuses to accept. This poor man may have become a millionaire in a minute. Is it right?

WHAT HE CAN'T DO.

John Albro in Judge.

He's up in all the theories of modern schools and colleges,
Can point one out the Pleiades, knows all the latest 'ologies.
He tells a lot that's comical of heroes biographical,
Researches astronomical of his are quite seraphical,
Your very thought he'll penetrate, provided that you've got any,
The classes he can separate in minerals or botany,
In theory he's got a use for necromantic mystery,
Can square up the hypothenuse and then relate its history.
In languages now obsolete he's wisely enigmatical
With explanations too replete—suspiciously grammatical!
His knowledge of antiquities is thought suppositional,
Yet masters the ub'quities historic and traditional.
He's quite an evolutionist and sees no mental hurt in it,
But calls one a delusionist who fails to talk expert in it.
His brains with apt quotations teem of knowledge in all sciences,
Though daily situations seem to find them poor reliances.
He knows the sex detectively, deciding who's æsthetical;
Can estimate respectively the real from the coquettical.
Queen Cleopatra's needle, he's amazingly well read in it,
But one that sews can't wheedle-dee nor squeeze a bit o' thread in it.

UNEARNED INCREMENT.

He: "Don't you think it is wrong for people to marry their intellectual inferiors?" She: "Yes; always wrong, and in some cases quite impossible."—Life.

Wooden: "I notice in New York that they have a lot of lunch places where everybody helps himself, and then reckons up his own check. I should think such a place would pay here in Boston." Bullfinch: "How long have you been in Boston?" Wooden: "Two weeks." Bullfinch: "It doesn't seem possible."—Boston Courier.

I warn ministers, and I warn landowners and the aristocracy of this country, against forcing upon the attention of the middle and industrial classes, the subject of taxation. For great as I believe the grievance of the protective system, mighty as I consider the fraud and injustice of the corn laws, I verily believe, if you were to bring forward the history of taxation in this country for the last 150 years, you will find as black a record against the landowners as even in the corn law itself. I warn them against ripping up the subject of taxation. If they want another league at the death of this one—if they want another organization and a motive—then let them force the middle and industrial classes to understand how they have been cheated, robbed, and bamboozled.—Richard Cobden.

Not Alarmed: Romantic Miss (addicted to poetry): "Oh, I'm just in love with Edgar Allan Poe." Practical Adorer: "Well, that's all right. He's dead."—New York Weekly.

Tough: "I tried the bunco game on a Kansas farmer yesterday." Another tough: "How did you come out?" Tough: "He got my dollar and a half."—Puck.

"What's the news in your town?" "Well, nothing much except that the Widow Snickers ran away with a barber." "With a barber?" "Yes, a nigger at that, as black as the ace of spades." "You don't say so. How do you suppose she came to do that?" "I can't say, unless perhaps it is because she is wearing black yet for her husband. I guess she wanted to preserve the unities by running away with a negro instead of a white man."—Texas Siftings.

THE LOOM OF LIFE.

All day, all night, I can hear the jar
Of the loom of life, and near and far
It thrills with its deep and muffled sound,
As the tireless wheels go always round.

Busily, ceaselessly, goes the loom,
In the light of day and the midnight's gloom;
The wheels are turning early and late,
And the woof is wound in the warp of fate.

Click, clack! there's a thread of love wove in;
Click, clack! another of wrong and sin;
What a checkered thing will this life be
When we see it unrolled in eternity!

Time, with a face like mystery,
And hands as busy as hands can be,
Sits at the loom with its arm outspread,
To catch in its meshes each glancing thread.

When shall this wonderful web be done?
In a thousand years, perhaps, or one;
Or to-morrow. Who knoweth? Not you or I.
But the wheels turn and the shuttles fly.

Are we spinners of wool for this life web—say?
Do we furnish the weaver a thread each day?
It were better then, O my friend, to spin
A beautiful thread, than a thread of sin.

Ah, sad-eyed weaver, the years are slow,
But each one is nearer the end I know;
And some day the last thread shall be woven in.
God grant it be love instead of sin.

THE STORY OF A RUSSIAN PEASANT.

Novoye Vremya.

Grandpa Ivan is dead. He was lying behind the oven, dressed in a rough linen shirt and covered with his sheepskin cloak. It was quite dark in the corner, the smoky, flickering light of the pine link which lighted the room did not reach there. The crackling of the burning pine and the voice of a cricket in the wall were the only sounds in the room.

By the burning pine link sat Axenia, Ivan's daughter-in-law, and her daughter Froshka, sewing a long white shirt. At the other end of the room hung a cradle, in which Fedya, Froshka's boy, slept. When the child moved, the young mother rocked him by means of a board which, in the form of a lever, was attached to the cradle. With one end under her foot, like a treadle, she could rock her boy without being disturbed in her work.

The heavy sighs or hoarse groans which Ivan had uttered were caused merely by the mechanical action of his dissolving frame. As to himself, if he were conscious at all, he felt quite comfortable. He did not feel anything and did not think of anything. Scenes of his past, dimly conceived, swayed before his imagination. Of such conceptions consisted his life. They were, indeed, the make-up of his whole, uneventful, laborious, and patient living on earth.

Seventy-five years ago a young woman, Malanya Boobnikha, was mowing rye in the field on a hot day in July. She had been unwell in the morning, but her mother-in-law had chased her out to work. A noontime Malanya could no longer swing the scythe; her head was dizzy, rings of red fire played around her eyes, she had a keen pain in her bones. She dropped her scythe and crept away to look for some water. Old Varvara, a neighbor, met her.

"What ails thee, Boobnikha?" she asked. "Thy face looks not like thine own."

"I am broken down, Varvara."

"Thou should'st not have gone to work. Come, I will assist thee."

Malanya made no rejoinder; she could not speak. The woman led her to the village. But she could not walk far, and lay down on the roadside to draw breath. Half an hour later she gave birth to a strong, healthy boy. Her husband came with a cart and took her home. On the Sunday following, the new-born boy was christened Ivan. Six days later Malanya was at work in the fields again, with her child in a basket tied to her shoulders.

The first five years of Ivan's life left no traces in his memory. He had a deformed leg, and the people in the village said that his father, coming home drunk, had thrown him out of the cradle and broken his leg. But Ivan never troubled himself about his deformity. If anything, the crooked limb was a favor to him, for it saved him from military service. He had strong arms, and he could work like any other peasant. For the rest he did not care.

At the age of nine Ivan was sent to the Diakon to learn his letters. He got more blows than learning from the teacher, but he learned to read and write. When he was eleven years old his father decided that he ought to eat bread no longer in idleness, and he was hired out as a shepherd boy to a wealthy farmer in the neighborhood. His master fed and clothed him and paid to his father three roubles in cash and three bushels of rye every year. The little fellow was happy. In the warm seasons of the year he could enjoy himself to his heart's content in the meadows and the woods, in which were plenty of berries, mushrooms, nuts, birds' nests, hares and squirrels. What more does a peasant boy want? That happiness, however, was of short duration. It lasted only three years. His older brother, Mikolka, was sent to the army and he was taken home to fill his place.

From that time the real life of a peasant began for Ivan. His father was a drunkard, his younger brother was sickly, the care of the entire household was laid upon him. At the dawn of the morning he went to work; at dinner time he ate a frugal meal of bread soaked in kvass, and rested himself for a half hour, and then he went to work again until late in the evening. There was neither rest nor recreation for him even on the holidays, for his father spent such days in the barroom, and he had to do what the peasants call the light work around the house—chop wood, repair the cart and the harness, plaster the holes in the chimney, repair the leakage in the roof, and so on. He had to work hard all the time, out of necessity and out of fear for his father, who had lost his reason in drink, was of a very ugly disposition and used his fist and his whip on the slightest provocation.

When Ivan was eighteen years old his parents decided that it was time for him to marry. They selected for him a girl from the neighboring village. Her name was Matrena. The girl had a speckled face, and a cataract on the left eye. She also had a bad reputation, because she was too condescending to the young fellows of her own village. Ivan did not like her and told his parents that he would not marry her; but his father insisted in his own ugly way. Matrena was a strong woman and a good worker. The summer was near at hand, when a strong, hard-working woman might be of great assistance in the household. Ivan's mother was growing too weak to do much work in the field. As to the ill-favored appearance of the girl, the Russian adage says, "The face is not a glass to drink water from." In that wise Ivan's father reasoned about the match and gave effect to his reasoning with many hard blows. Ivan had to submit.

All the peasants of both Ivan's and Matrena's villages took part in the marriage celebration. There was plenty of brandy at the repast. Ivan got drunk for the first time in his life, and gave his bride a good beating then and there. There was nothing unusual in that. The guests even approved of his conduct, because he manifested the authority of a husband on the very day of his wedding. The bride cried a little, but that did not prevent her taking part in the next dance. After the marriage the young couple had a vacation of three days, the customary honeymoon of the peasants, and then they went to work as usual in the field and about the little farm of Ivan's father. Ivan had the notion that a peasant must beat his wife and get drunk on a holiday. He followed the example of his father, whose companion he was at the barroom. He and his father got drunk on the holidays and beat their wives when they came home. The two women cried when they were chastised, but everything was forgotten the next day when all had to go to work again.

The summer was hardly over when Ivan's elder brother, Mikolka, came home, having been dismissed from the army for some reason unknown. The unexpected increase in the family was too great a tax on the means of livelihood on hand. It was, therefore, resolved that one of the three brothers should hire out to work. Which should it be? Mikolka, as the eldest son, had the right to take his father's place at the family hearth. The youngest son, Stepka, was not strong, and could not do well as a hired laborer. By a majority of voices in the family council it was decided that Ivan must leave the house. And Ivan went away, far, far to the coast of "Little Mother Volga" to work as a "boorlak," a barge puller.

The life of a boorlak is well known; he is hitched to the line of the barge, which he pulls from early morning until late in the evening. Many, many times did Ivan walk up and down by the shore of the Volga, with the line on his shoulder, pulling the huge barge, together with twenty other boorlaks. In the heat of the summer, and in the chills of the spring and the autumn, ankle deep in the dry sand or knee deep in the mud, in the parching rays of the July sun or in the pouring rain of September, they pulled their barge at an even gait, singing the slow, sad boorlak songs. At noon their employer would order a halt and give them time to eat dinner and rest for about an hour. But, exhausted with his hard, slow, monotonous work, his shoulders and spine sore from the pressure and friction of the line, the boorlak hardly cares for his dinner; he falls asleep with the morsel in his mouth. The dinner hour passes almost unnoticed. The barge owner calls, and, taking the line again upon his sore shoulders, the boorlak tugs his barge until dark.

In the winter Ivan worked in a lumber mill on the Kama. Here the work was easier, but the wages were small. The owner of the mill was a "koolak," a close-fisted extortionist. Paying the smallest wages he insisted that his laborers should buy their provisions at his stores. He charged them for their tobacco, shoes and other articles of necessity three times as much as they were worth. When the working season was over, the balance in their favor was very small. Still, adding the little which he received at the mill to that which he had saved from his wages on the Volga, Ivan managed to send home twenty roubles every year. For six years Ivan worked in that manner. He received no news from home; but that did not worry him. While tugging the barge or working the buzz saw in a lumber mill a man has no time to think of home.

One day he received with a passport a letter informing him that he was wanted at home. That happened in the winter, when he was working in the lumber mill. He told his employer that he must leave. That made the koolak so angry that he curtailed his account in a most shameful manner. Ivan had to make his way home, about six hundred versts, on foot and almost without money. Half begging and half starving, he trudged on until he came back to his native village. Great changes had occurred at his home during his absence. His father had died and his senior brother Mikolka had been transported to Siberia for horse stealing. His greatest surprise was to find that his wife was a mother of three children, two boys and a girl. But that did not trouble him. "To keep up a respectable appearance" he gave his wife a beating, but at heart he was glad to be the father of two healthy boys. From the day he arrived Ivan was the recognized head of the household, which consisted of himself, his wife, and three children, his younger brother and wife, and two unmarried sisters. There were mouths enough to feed and there was work enough to do, and Ivan was the only good laborer in the house. His younger brother could not do much because he had a disabled arm. Ivan settled down to work for his household.

In 1861 serfdom was abolished. The twenty-six peasants of the village of Poostovka, of whom Ivan was one, had no cause to rejoice at their liberation. The manor of their master, who had inherited the village from a distant relative, stood always unoccupied. Their master lived somewhere in a foreign land, and seemed to have forgotten about the village and the serfs that he owned. The serfs were, consequently, not oppressed with socage or quit rents. Although they were told that they were free, they hardly knew what it meant. Government surveyors came and apportioned to them three and a half dessyatins of land for each "feeder." That was less than they had had when their master owned the estate. They, consequently, felt that their liberty had done them more harm than good. They were told, moreover, that, as a community of free men, they had to select a starosta (foreman or alderman) to represent them before the Government authorities. They called a meeting for that purpose. Ivan was the only man in the village who "knew letters," and he

was unanimously elected to the honorable position. He begged his fellow villagers to let him off, and demonstrated that an old man would be more fit than he to act as "starosta." He even put up a pail of brandy to bribe them that they should elect another man. The brandy was drunk, but his request was not heeded; the community had elected him and he must serve. His principal duty was to collect the government taxes. But his fellow villagers were poor, and could not pay them in full. When the natchalnik (government agent) came in the autumn and the starosta had not the full amount of taxes to deliver, he put him in prison for a month, or still longer, "for the neglect of duty." Ivan served as starosta for nine years, and every year he had to serve a term in prison because he could not collect from his neighbors the full amount of taxes which the government claimed.

In the meantime Ivan's children grew up. His eldest son was taken into the army and lost sight of, leaving a wife and child at home. The second son went to tug the barge on the Volga, as his father had done in his younger days. One daughter married, and another, who could not find a match, stayed at home. His only real help was Petro, his second son.

At the age of sixty Ivan's strength gave out. He could work no longer in the field, and he busied himself with the lighter work around the house. His wife died. Five years later he became more feeble, and could not attend to the work around the house with the usual energy. His son Petro, who now was the recognized head of the household, came to the conclusion that the old man consumed bread for nothing and must get out of the house. Fortunately the rector of the parish required a man to take care of his beehives. Ivan was able to attend to that, and he was employed. Grandpa Ivan, as he was called, felt good as a beekeeper. He could stretch himself and warm his old emaciated frame in the bright summer day. He could inhale the fragrance of the woods and meadows, and listen to the chirping of the birds and the humming of the bees. But his happiness lasted only five years. He grew too feeble to attend even to the beehives, and the parson sent him home. One year later his eyes grew dim; he could hardly see a thing.

From that time his life was spent between his bed behind the oven and the little wooden stool at the door of his hut. In the morning, when the weather was clear, he felt his way to the door, sat on his little bench, and inhaled the fresh air. When tired of sitting outside he felt his way back to his couch behind the oven. He was tolerated with ill grace by his son, who often told him unreservedly, "I wish thou wert dead. How long will thee continue eating bread for nothing, old devil?" Very little bread did Grandpa Ivan eat, not even a pound a day, which he soaked in water, but even that morsel was begrudged him.

During the last week of his life Ivan was in his corner. He did not eat anything, but he felt rather good—restful. In the evening, when Petro came home, he stepped up to the couch and pulled off the coverlet to see whether the old man was alive. Ivan uttered a groan of recognition. "No, he is not dead yet," the son would say. "He does not want to die, the old devil!" and he sat down to his supper with an air of disappointment. Ivan passed away quietly. Neither his daughter-in-law, Axenia, nor his granddaughter, Froshka, knew that he was dead. They sat in the dingy hut doing their needlework by the light of the pine link. Nor did Ivan himself know that his life ceased. The same motionless thought which was in him while he lived hovered over his old home. The door opened, and Petro entered. The red, smoky flame of the pine link flickered in the stream of fresh air from the opened door.

"Is grandpa still living?" Petro asked, and stepped up to the old man's couch. He pulled the coverlet—no groan of recognition. He shook the old man—no sign of life. That time his father did not disappoint him; he was dead, indeed.

"Well, women," Petro said coolly, "he is dead. To-morrow we will bury him. We must call the parson."

The women began crying aloud. The child in the cradle woke up and cried also. The mother took him to her breast and fed him. He fed greedily; he wanted to live. He knew not that, like his Great Grandpa Ivan, like his Grandfather Petro, and like his own father, now a young man of about twenty years, he must labor all his life and die at last as one who "eats bread for nothing."

MY LITTLE GIRL.

Samuel M. Peck.

My little girl is nested
Within her tiny bed,
With amber ringlets crested
Around her dainty head;
She lies so calm and stilly,
She breathes so soft and low,
She calls to mind a lily
Half hidden in the snow.

A weary little mortal
Has gone to slumber-land;
The Pixies at the portal
Have caught her by the hand;
She dreams her broken dolly
Will soon be mended there,
That looks so melancholy
Upon the rocking-chair.

I kiss your wayward tresses,
My drowsy little queen;
I know you have caresses
From floating forms unseen.
O, Angels, let me keep her
To kiss away my cares;
This darling little sleeper,
Who has my love and prayers!

PROTECTION A HUMBUG.

Detroit Evening Sun.

Henry George hit the nail square on the head in demonstrating the fallacy of high protection laws, when he said: "Imagine a village of, say a hundred voters. Imagine two of these villagers to make such a proposition as this: 'We are desirous, fellow citizens, of seeing you more prosperous and to that end propose this plan: Give us the privilege of collecting a tax of five cents a day from every one in the village. No one will feel the tax much, for even to a man, wife and eight children it will only come to the paltry sum of 50 cents a day. Yet this slight tax will give our village two rich citizens who can afford to spend money and will at once begin to live in commensurate style. We will enlarge our houses and improve our grounds, set up carriages, hire servants, give parties, and buy much more freely at the stores. This will make trade brisk and cause a greater demand for labor. This, in turn, will create a greater demand for agricultural productions, which will enable the neighboring farmers to make a greater demand for store goods and the labor of mechanics. Thus shall we all become prosperous.'

"There is in no country under the sun a village in which the people would listen to such a proposition. Yet it is every whit as plausible as the doctrine that encouraging some industries encourages all industries. And that is precisely what is being done, not in some obscure village in some heathen land, but right here in the midst of sixty millions of intelligent American citizens."

SELF-CONCEIT VS. SELF-CONFIDENCE.

George William Curtis in Harper's Magazine.

Yet, while conceit may thus produce a negatively agreeable effect, it cannot be called a positive charm. We do not think a person more pleasing because of his conceit, and we do not encourage it in those who are dear to us. A parent represses rather than stimulates it in his child, and a person who should plainly and laboriously cultivate it would not be in peril of canonization. It is doubtful if conceit ever accompanies real greatness. A great man, indeed, may have the self-confidence that springs from the consciousness of power; but consciousness of power is very different from conceit of it. The one is a fact; the other, a fancy.

POST-MORTEM INDOLENCE.

Belgravia.

About a dozen years ago an English fellow-traveler, with whom I was returning from Dublin to Bradford, said to me: "Really, those Irish fellows are a queer lot! In Morrison's Hotel, where I was staying, there was a poor waiter, so ill that he could hardly crawl about, and I said of him (as he stood on the steps to see me off) to the carman, that poor fellow looks shockingly ill!" 'Och! Ill! Sure he's dead these two months, only he's too lazy to close his eyes!'"

FLYING MACHINES.

Julian St. Botolphe in North American Review.

There is nothing to prevent man from flying, like the eagle of the Alps or the condor of the Andes, except his want of inventive skill; and if the signs be true, this will not very much longer prevent the desired consummation.

Man will never poise himself in the air like the dragon fly, nor zigzag through it like the swallow. Nevertheless, there appears to be no adequate reason why he should not, some fine Fourth of July, astonish

"the nation
An' all creation
By flyin' over the celebration,"

if he can only devise a motor, with the necessary accessories, which will not add too much to his own weight. But even great additional weight will not be an insurmountable obstacle, provided a sufficiently rapid motion can be attained.

It takes time for the greatest power to move the smallest mass; that is to say, if a force were applied for only an instant (i. e., a point of time) to a mass, it would not move it in that instant. If, then, a great weight should press for only an instant against a small resistance—as that of the air—it would for that instant be sustained. Hence it is only necessary for the weight to move fast enough horizontally to rest for only an instant upon any given mass of air, in order to be sustained. As it moved from mass to mass it would not have time to fall through any one of them. Of course, this condition can be reached only approximately; but the closer the approximation, the less uplifting power would be required in the motor.

The principle is strikingly illustrated by Mr. Langley, of the Smithsonian Institution, by comparing such a mass to a skater moving rapidly over thin ice. The briefest pause or diminution in his speed, and his support would instantly yield; but it is only necessary for him to move fast enough to glide over a film as thin as tissue paper.

Here, then, is the problem of aerial navigation theoretically solved. Given, a mass of any size or weight, spread laterally so as to rest upon a sufficiently large mass of air, and moving with sufficient speed horizontally, and your flying machine, so long dreamed of and so ardently sought, is achieved!

Such is, or is to be, Professor Langley's Aeroplane, the realization of the magic carpet of the "Arabian Nights." May Fortune and his happy genius bring speedy success!

A HORRIBLE WARNING HEEDED.

Belgravia.

A friend of my father's had a servant called Jerry Doherty, a handy man, who was of invaluable service to him—until poor Jerry took to drink. His master, as much in his own interests as in Jerry's, was continually trying to reform him; and to this end he would read out to Jerry from the newspapers every story of crime or of trouble traceable to drink which he could find in them. At last he came upon a story which might have reformed *Bardolph*. It was a thrilling tale of a drunkard who was so saturated with whiskey that his breath caught fire as he was blowing out a candle, set his inside ablaze as it would have set any other whiskey-cask, and burned him to ashes in five minutes. "Now, Jerry, now, Jerry."

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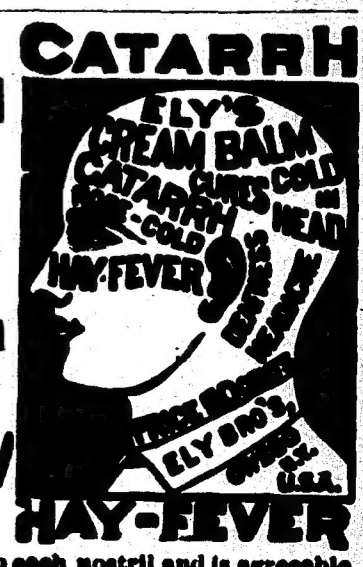

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ELY BROTHERS, 56 Warren Street, New York.

urged his master, with the solemnity of an adjuration, "let this be a warning to you!" "Oh, begor, it will so, sir!" groaned the horrified Jerry. "I'll never blow a candle out again the longest day I live."

The first thing which the Democracy will write upon the slate will be the nationalization of the land.—Judge Hughes.

HENRY GEORGE

IN REPLY

TO THE POPE.

"The Condition of Labor," an open letter by Henry George in reply to the Encyclical of Pope Leo XIII., containing the text of the Encyclical, is now ready for delivery, Cloth, 75 cents. Paper, 30 cents. Mailed postpaid to any address. Send orders to

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42 UNIVERSITY PLACE,
NEW YORK.

SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

PLATFORM

ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES AT COOPER UNION, NEW YORK, SEPT. 3, 1890.

We assert as our fundamental principle the self-evident truth enunciated in the Declaration of American Independence, that all men are created equal, and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights.

We hold that all men are equally entitled to the use and enjoyment of what God has created and of what is gained by the general growth and improvement of the community of which they are a part. Therefore, no one should be permitted to hold natural opportunities without a fair return to all for any special privilege thus accorded to him, and that value which the growth and improvement of the community attach to land should be taken for the use of the community.

We hold that each man is entitled to all that his labor produces. Therefore no tax should be levied on the products of labor.

To carry out these principles we are in favor of raising all public revenues for national, state, county and municipal purposes by a single tax upon land values, irrespective of improvements, and of the abolition of all forms of direct and indirect taxation.

Since in all our states we now levy some tax on the value of land, the single tax can be instituted by the simple and easy [illegible] abolishing, one after another all other taxes now levied, and commensurately increasing the tax on land values, until we draw upon that one source for all expenses of government, the revenue being divided between local governments, state governments and the general government, as the revenue rom direct taxes is now divided between the loca and state governments; or, a direct assessment being made by the general government upon the states and paid by them from revenues collected in this manner.

The single tax we propose is not a tax on land, and therefore would not fall on the use of land and become a tax on labor.

It is a tax, not on land, but on the value of land. Thus it would not fall on all land, but only on valuable land, and on that not in proportion to the use made of it, but in proportion to its value—the premium which the user of land must pay to the owner, either in purchase money or rent, for permission to use valuable land. It would thus be a tax, not on the use or improvement of land, but on the ownership of land, taking what would otherwise go to the owner as owner, and not as user.

In assessments under the single tax all values created by individual use or improvement would be excluded and the only value taken into consideration would be the value attaching to the bare land by reason of neighborhood, etc., to be determined by impartial periodical assessments. Thus the farmer would have no more taxes to pay than the speculator who held a similar piece of land idle, and the man who on a city lot erected a valuable building would be taxed no more than the man who held a similar lot vacant.

The single tax, in short, would call upon men to contribute to the public revenues, not in proportion to what they produce or accumulate, but in proportion to the value of the natural opportunities they hold. It would compel them to pay just as much for holding land idle as for putting it to its fullest use.

The single tax, therefore, would—

1. Take the weight of taxation off of the agricultural districts where land has little or no value irrespective of improvements, and put it on towns and cities where bare land rises to a value of millions of dollars per acre.

2. Dispense with a multiplicity of taxes and a horde of taxgatherers, simplify government and greatly reduce its cost.

3. Do away with the fraud, corruption and gross inequality inseparable from our present methods o taxation, which allow the rich to escape while they grind the poor. Land cannot be hid or carried off and its value can be ascertained with greater ease and certainty than any other.

4. Give us with all the world as perfect freedom of trade as now exists between the states of our Union, thus enabling our people to share, through free exchanges, in all the advantages which nature has given to other countries, or which the peculiar skill of other peoples has enabled them to attain. It would destroy the trusts, monopolies and corruptions which are the outgrowths of the tariff. It would do away with the fines and penalities now levied on anyone who improves a farm, erects a house, builds a machine, or in any way adds to the general stock of wealth. It would leave everyone free to apply labor or expend capital in production or exchange without fine or restriction, and would leave to each the full product of his exertion.

5. It would, on the other hand, by taking for public use that value which attaches to land by reason of the growth and improvement of the community, make the holding of land unprofitable to the mere owner, and profitable only to the user. It would thus make it impossible for speculators and monopolists to hold natural opportunities unused or only half used, and would throw open to labor the illimitable field of employment which the earth offers to man. It would thus solve the labor problem, do away with involuntary poverty, raise wages in all occupations to the full earnings of labor, make overproduction impossible until all human wants are satisfied, render labor-saving inventions blessings to all, and cause such an enormous production and such an equitable distribution of wealth as would give to all comfort, leisure and participation in the advantages of an advancing civilization.

With respect to monopolies other than the monopoly of land, we hold that where free competition becomes impossible, as in telegraphs, railroads, water and gas supplies, etc., such business becomes a proper social function, which should be controlled and managed by and for the whole people concerned, through their proper government, local, state or national, as may be.

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CONNECTICUT.

MERIDEN.—Meriden single tax club. Meets second and fourth Fridays of the month at 7.30 p. m. at parlors of J. Cairns, 72½ E. Main st. President, John Cairns; secretary, Arthur M. Dignam.

SHARON.—Sharon single tax committee. Chairman, J. J. Ryan.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington single tax league. President, Edwin Gladmon; treas., R. J. Boyd; sec'y, Wm. Geddes, M.D. 1719 G. st., n. w.

IOWA.

BURLINGTON.—Burlington single tax club. First Saturday of each month, 805 North 5th st. Pres., Wilbur, Mosena, 920 Hedge av.; sec. treas., Frank S. Churchill.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club. Every Thursday evening at 206 La Salle st. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey, 319 Lincoln av; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 733.

SOUTH CHICAGO.—Single tax club of South Chicago and Cheltenham. Pres., John Black; sec., Robt. Aitchison, box K. K., South Chicago.

MASSACHUSETTS.

BROCKTON.—Single tax club. Meets Friday evenings corner Glenwood av. and Vernon st. Pres., Wm A. McKindrick: sec., A. S. Barnard, 54 Belmont st.

MINNESOTA.

MINNEAPOLIS.—Minneapolis single tax league. Every Tuesday evening, at the West Hotel. Pres., H. B. Martin, Woods' block; sec., Oliver T. Erickson, 2308 Lyndale av., N.

MISSOURI.

STATE.—Missouri single tax committee. Henry H. Hoffman, chairman. This committee is pushing a State single tax petition. Blanks sent on application. It is also forming syndicate for publication of local single tax papers throughout the United States at little or no expense. Write for circulars to Percy Pepoon, sec., 513 Elm st., St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS.—Single tax league.—Meets every Friday evening 8 o'clock in Bowman Block, n. e. cor. 11th and Locust sts. Pres. J. W. Steele Sec'y, L. P. Custer, 2717A Sheridan av.

NEW YORK.

Eastern District single tax club. Monthly meetings on the first Monday of each month, at 94 South Third street, Brooklyn. Pres., Joseph McGuinness, 133 S. 9th st., Brooklyn, E. D; sec., Emily A. Deverall.

Brooklyn Woman's Single Tax Club meetings, third Tuesday of each month at 3 P. M., at 198 Livingston street. Pres., Eva J. Turner, 566 Carlton avenue; Cor. Sec., Venie B. Havens, 219 DeKalb avenue.

OHIO.

DAYTON.—Free land club. Pres., J. G. Galloway; sec., W. W. Kile, 108 East 5th st.

PENNSYLVANIA.

GERMANTOWN.—Single tax club. Sec., E. D. Burleigh, 13 Willow av. Meets first and third Tuesday of each month, at Vernon Hall, cor. Main st. and Chelton av., at 8 P. M.

PHILADELPHIA.—Single tax society. Meets every Thursday and Sunday at 8 p. m. Social meetings second Tuesday, No. 30 South Broad st. Cor. sec., A. H. Stephenson, 240 Chestnut st.

POTTSTOWN.—Single tax club. Meetings first and third Friday evenings each month in Weitzenkorn's hall. Pres., D. L. Haws; sec., Geo. Auchy, Pottstown, Pa.

READING.—Reading single tax society. Monday evenings, 723 Penn st. Pres., Wm. H. McKinney; sec., C. S. Prizer, 1011 Penn st.

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The skin OUGHT to be clear; there is nothing strange in a beautiful face.

If we wash with proper soap, the skin will be open and clear, unless the health is bad. A good skin is better than a doctor.

The soap to use is Pears; no alkali in it. It is perhaps the only soap in the world with no alkali in it.

All sorts of stores sell it, especially druggists; all sorts of people use it.

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The Standard Cocoa of the World.

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SPARE WOMEN

Thin women know how much beauty owes to plumpness. Beautiful women know how much it owes to comfort. Men do not think of these things very deeply; beauty does not seem to them to call for analysis.

What is thinness? Too little fat. You say you are losing flesh when you are getting thin. It is fat. You are losing fat; and fat belongs to health and comfort as well as to beauty.

If a woman imagines she cares more for beauty than for comfort and health, it is because she does not see that there is no beauty without comfort and health.

The means of beauty and comfort and health, to some who are thin, is CAREFUL LIVING and Scott's Emulsion of cod-liver oil.

A book on CAREFUL LIVING will be sent free to those who write for it to Scott & Bowne, Chemists, 132 South Fifth Avenue, New York.

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